Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project
2019 Annual Report

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Project Archaeologist – Chester Liwosz
Tour and Outreach Coordinator – Amanda Fox
Education Coordinator – Sandy Romero

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A very special thank you to our business sponsors, donors, Flute Player Society members, grantors, volunteers, and every helping hand for making our 20th anniversary special.

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National Trust for Historic Preservation
Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area
Rio Arriba County Lodgers Tax

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Santa Fe Community Foundation
LANL Foundation
Sulica Fund

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Steve and Martha Hillyard
Cathy, Bill and Ian Johnson
John Kincheloe and Susan McClintock
Susan Noel
Jane York Punneo
Scott and Mary Rathgaber
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Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project is a 501(c)(3) community nonprofit
P O Box 407, Velarde, NM, 87582  505-852-1351  www.mesaprietapetroglyphs.org
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The entire human history of New Mexico is reflected in the estimated 100,000 petroglyphs on Mesa Prieta. The Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project has spent 20 years recording them, educating kids and adults about them, and working for their protection. We are grateful to all the volunteers and donors who have made reaching our 20th year possible. We hope our generous supporters will enable us to secure permanent protection for this unique historic treasure.

- Katherine Wells, Founder

2019 was a big year for the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project. We celebrated our 20th year of protection, recording, and education on the Mesa and reflected on our achievements of two decades. I want to thank all of you who made 2019 such a success, our cherished donors and granting agencies, our fantastic staff, our many, many enthusiastic volunteers, and our dedicated board of directors. We couldn't have made the Project what it is without all your help. As I write this, the country and the world is facing the serious difficulties brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic; and we know the organization will face significant challenges in the coming year. We will do our best to keep everyone safe, and to keep MPPP strong so that we can continue to do our work throughout 2020 and beyond.

-Alec Kercsó, Board President
What a year! We transitioned key staff, welcoming Project Archaeologist, Dr. Chester Liwosz. Our founder, Katherine Wells, was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Historic Preservation Division of the State of New Mexico. We added new educational programming, refurbished a small educational resource center on the Wells Petroglyph Preserve, published a newly updated edition of our award-winning curriculum guide, and continued to serve our mission through our long-term citizen science project, documenting the cultural history on Mesa Prieta!

I am honored to have been part of MPPP during our 20th Anniversary; we are thriving thanks to our dedicated staff, an army of passionate volunteers, and foundations and friends like you – who believe in and support our cause. Thank you!

- Jennifer Goyette, Project Director

Rock Stars of the Mesa: MPPP Volunteers!

100+ Volunteers
7,965 hours donated
40,675 miles driven

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
FINANCIAL PICTURE

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<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>Operating Expense</td>
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<td>$169,605</td>
<td>$158,578</td>
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<td>Net Revenue</td>
<td>$21,444</td>
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**2019 REVENUE**
- Merchandise 4.8%
- Tour Fees 13.6%
- Grants 18.8%
- Donations 24.0%
- Fundraising 38.2%

**2019 EXPENSES**
- Program Costs 69%
- Other Operating Costs 31%

20TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!
Tours, recording, events, lectures, education, trainings, awards, and more!
Recording on the Mesa

Archaic footprint: Observe the way the foot was pecked around cracks and vesicles in the basalt giving the effect of someone stepping barefoot in clay.

37 recorders are recording 400 Acres!
An expert on rock art of the Southwest and well beyond, Dr. Chester Liwosz joined the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project as the Project Archaeologist in spring of 2019. He brings with him a solid background in iconography, database management, and geospatial reasoning to build on MPPP's legacy. Dr. Liwosz’s experiences are diverse, spanning Mesoamerica, the Mojave Desert and Great Basin, and Polynesian Hawai’i. He has supported an array of public and non-profit bodies as an archaeologist, including California State Parks, the National Park Service, and the Pacific International Center for High Technology Research. His current research focuses on 3D modeling and acoustics of the rock art landscape at Mesa Prieta.
18th ANNUAL SUMMER YOUTH INTERN PROGRAM

In 2019, 18 hardworking interns became alumni of a program serving over 300 teens since inception. They recorded over 400 petroglyphs and cultural landscape items on the Mesa!

Discovering Mesa Prieta: the Petroglyphs of Northern New Mexico and the People Who Made them

MPPP estimates that over 3056 students and more than 200 educators have benefited from our curriculum and teacher training seminars. Lesson plans serve over 600 youth annually and the curriculum is taught in more than 17 schools in Northern NM.

We work with many community partners such as Northern New Mexico College to implement dual high school and college credit for eligible students, and Historic Los Luceros, which provide space for field training prior to field work.
In 2019, MPPP hosted 182 youth for field days on the Wells Petroglyph Preserve. The Project has hosted over 2000 youth during the last 9 years!

Testimonial of a STEM Educator
“The most valuable aspect of MPPP’s STEM curriculum for students is that modern day science is taught along side the indigenous cultural perspective. This is critical to a non-indigenous student’s understanding of global diversity, honors the indigenous students, and changes the way historical knowledge has been taught about indigenous peoples.”

Education Coordinator Sandy Romero works with volunteers Judith Chaddick and Esta Gutierrez to prepare for our annual Teachers Training seminar.
Our tours program continued to grow in 2019 with a 16.5% increase in revenue over 2018. 27 of our dedicated volunteer docents led 182 tours, hosting 1,234 visitors. We kicked off the year with the opening of a new Trail - Tour 8, The Spanish Lion Trail -- and the expansion of Tour 3, Flute Player Hollow.

Unusually high amounts of rainfall resulted in beautiful spring blooms, a greener preserve, and unfortunately a lot of rock fall and erosion. Our Trails Maintenance team consisting of 15 revolving volunteers met 4 times to remediate and expand trails while fending off exuberantly plump cacti.

Outreach

Each year volunteers and staff engage in outreach activities reaching hundreds of people. Events include activities such as Science Night at the Isotopes, conferences, Fall Fiesta at Los Luceros, and more! In 2019, the MPP Talks lecture series continued for its 12th year; six speakers attracted a total attendance of 273 guests!