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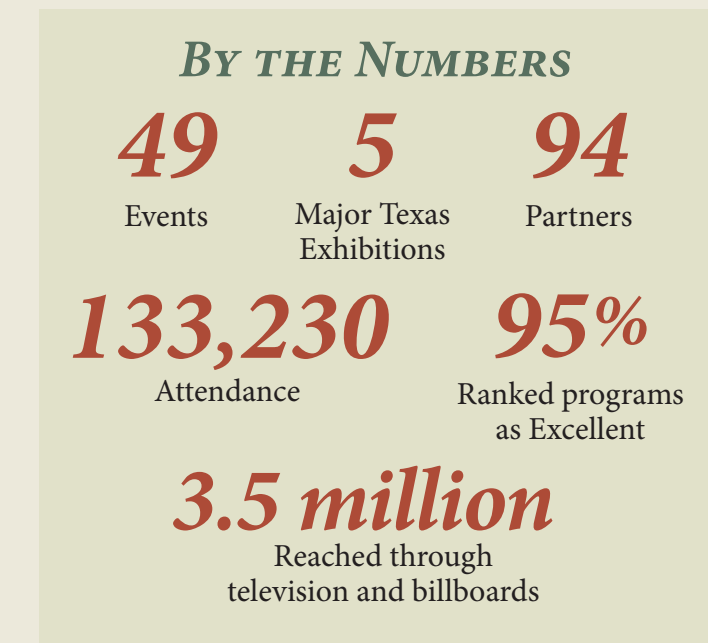
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Tom Lea Month Events & Highlights

REPORT ON OCTOBER 2015

The ninth annual Tom Lea Month ended on October 29th with our inaugural MADE IN EL PASO event. This year we strengthened our relationship with Ciudad Juarez by hosting over five events in our neighboring city. Having five simultaneous Tom Lea exhibitions was unprecedented this year, with some museums exhibiting Tom Lea work that had never been exhibited before. We are pleased to report the results of this year's Tom Lea Month:



Compadres Therapy Inc. hosted *The Hands of Cantu: Horsemanship at the Pass of the North*

THE event, inspired by Tom Lea's 1964 novel *The Hands of Cantu*, demonstrated the words written in Lea's book: "Any horseman worthy of the name of domador, or tamer, must agree: the aim and object of his requiting labor is not to 'break' a good horse but to make one." Compadres focuses on the human-animal bond experience and its benefits.

Jose A Ramos, DVM Equine Veterinary SVC, said: "In the book *The Hands of Cantu*, Tom Lea captures the essence of the relationship between a horse trainer and the horse. Having the Tom Lea Institute and Compadres Horse Therapy join hands to show the world the fundamentals of horse training in various disciplines and breeds of horses is a marvelous thing. No wonder it inspired Tom Lea to create such a great novel with beautiful illustrations!"

MORE HIGHLIGHTS →

The Notebook of Nancy Lea

WHILE attending the Art Institute of Chicago, Tom Lea married a fellow art student and aspiring writer named Nancy Taylor from Terre Haute, Indiana. In 1930 they travelled to Europe, moving to Santa Fe in 1933 where an ill-starred appendectomy resulted in her death. Compiling her journals, Lea entrusted his friend, Carl Hertzog, with printing 25 copies of *The Notebook of Nancy Lea*, which he gave to her closest friends. A remarkable book, it reveals the mind of a nascent talent, snuffed out by death.



Nancy Lea in 1931.

In commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Nancy Lea's death, the Tom Lea Institute offers a special boxed edition of *The Notebook of Nancy Lea* in an edition of 25. It includes a booklet of her delicate watercolors, never seen before and now in the collection of The Bryan Museum in Galveston, Texas. We are grateful to Jim Lea and J.P. Bryan for allowing this special publication.

To reserve a copy, call Carolina Franco, Tom Lea Institute, 915-533-0048.



Canutillo students visit *Pass of the North* mural

ON November 12, third-graders from the Canutillo School District went on a tour of the El Paso History Museum's Digie Wall, The Tom Lea Institute, and Tom Lea's 1938 *Pass of the North* mural inside the Historic Federal Court House. The tour was conducted by Tom Lea Institute staff members Arturo Flores, Angela Vaughn, and Elisa Garrido. The students and teachers were captivated by all the rich history El Paso has to offer, and sent in letters and drawings of their favorite part of the tour.



Memorable quotes from Tom Lea Month Exhibitions



"It was a pleasure to have worked with Adair Margo and the Tom Lea Institute to bring 27 of Tom Lea's most important World War II works of art to the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas. In my opinion, the paintings and other works of art are simply stunning.

After having served alongside sailors and Marines, Tom Lea used his unique artistic capability to capture the personal emotion and cost of war. Wanting to make this spectacular collection available to as many as possible, there is no admission fee. The special exhibit will remain in the Bush Gallery until mid-April 2016."

– Gen. Mike Hagee,
National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas



"The city has a longstanding relationship with the Tom Lea Institute, and we have worked together with the Institute on collaborative exhibits for Tom Lea Month for many years. This year, by expanding our participation and deepening our collaboration, we were able to show what Tom Lea saw and experienced growing up in El Paso and the influence his early experiences had on his career. The expanded exhibition programming across our museum sites built upon what the Institute has been promoting and added greater context to the activities that took place during this celebration. We look forward to continuing our celebration of Tom Lea and his identity as a favorite son of El Paso, in the coming years."

– Dr. Tracey Jerome,
El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department/
El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, Texas



"The Bullock Texas State History Museum was pleased to work with the Tom Lea Institute to create the exhibition, Tom Lea Chronicler of 20th Century America. The Institute was instrumental in identifying works and potential lenders to the exhibition, making for an incredibly rich experience for museum visitors."

– Dr. Victoria Ramirez,
Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, Austin, Texas



MADE IN EL PASO event

FOR the first time, three local colleges worked together as part of Made in El Paso, a tribute to El Paso's world-class boot makers. Marketing students from UTEP, architecture students from Texas Tech University College of Architecture, and fashion design students from EPCC were given the opportunity to research, design and market a Tom Lea-inspired boot. The students worked closely with boot companies and the Tom Lea Institute staff to create three boot designs; Lucchese awarded each with a pair of boots for their participation.

Tania Schwartz, chair of the 2015 Made in El Paso event, said, "With the support of the Hospitals of Providence, SEISA Medical, Baron Chemical, Scott Schwartz, Dana Hamilton and Lucchese Boot Company, the Tom Lea Institute and City of El Paso were able to create an event that helped raise awareness about El Paso's unique economic driver that is the custom boot industry. We need to support Workforce Development, Borderplex and our educational institutions like EPCC, UTEP, Texas Tech College of Architecture to find ways that we can help this industry thrive and drive tourism to our region for social media opportunities that celebrate what is uniquely ours."



"The conference prior to the gathering had the most prominent local bootmakers on the panel and focused the discussion on the handmade boot industry that thanks to the highly skilled Mexican boot workers is located in El Paso, Texas and nowhere else in the world."

– Jose Luis Sanchez, CABOOTERS

TLI digital librarian graduates with honors

ELISA Garrido, a student-intern and founding digital librarian of the Tom Lea Institute, graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Texas at El Paso in December 2015. She also received an award for Outstanding Achievement in Art History. Elisa

helped pave the way for the institute to receive \$25,000 from the Hoblitzelle Foundation in Dallas for building its Digital Library of Lea's art, letters and press. She helped develop the "Experience the Pass of the North" mural tours and has been a key asset to the institute.

I LOVE EL PASO

SAVE the Date for the Tom Lea Institute's annual Valentine's Day open house on Friday, February 12. In a unique collaboration, the institute and the UTEP Business Center will host I LOVE EL PASO. With his energetic and engaging manner, local businessman Kirk Robison will share his personal story of moving to El Paso with his sweetheart, Judy, to build a successful business that became "Pizza Properties." His remarks will be followed by the story of Tom Lea and his sweetheart, Sarah, and how he showed her his "Pass of the North" mural on their first date in 1938 — told in the short film "An Awkward First Date." A walking tour of the mural will follow.



DATE: Friday, Feb. 12
TIME: 3-5:00 p.m.

The progressive event begins at the UTEP Business Center, Chase Bank Building, 201 E. Main (Stanton Street entrance) and ends at the Tom Lea Institute, Chase Bank Building, Suite 100.

RSVP: Carolina Franco,
915-533-0048

Gratitude to two friends

THIS past year two extraordinary people and great friends to the Tom Lea Institute died. Ever since arriving in El Paso to teach at the University of Texas at El Paso, Maceo Crenshaw Dailey thoroughly researched and then shared El Paso's significant African American history. His knowledge added dimension and understanding to the Buffalo Soldier as played by Satchel Paige in the movie rendition of Tom Lea's *The Wonderful Country*. At an LBJ conference during Tom Lea Month 2013, and he traced the relationship between El Paso mayor, congressman and federal judge R. Ewing Thomason and Lyndon Baines Johnson, analyzing how the men arrived at their Civil Rights positions. Not only did Maceo encourage the work of the Tom Lea Institute, he participated and enriched us as a result.



"Think anew about topics, issues, and human interactions based on the many aspects of Tom Lea's life and career."

– African American UTEP scholar Maceo Dailey

Frances Roderick Axelson's friendship with Tom and Sarah Lea went back a generation to her father, Dorrance Roderick, the longtime publisher of the El Paso Times who commissioned Tom Lea to paint murals on the recreation room walls of his home when Tom was still a starving artist. Frances sponsored the Call for Papers at the University of Texas at El Paso during Tom Lea Month 2011 with her friend Betty Ruth Wakefield Haley, resulting in "American Aficionados, Tom Lea and Ernest Hemingway" by Dr. Mimi Gladstein and "A Texan Exile in Mexico, A Mexican Exile in Texas: Tom Lea's Advocacy of the Unbounded Identity in *The Wonderful Country* by Daniel Irving.

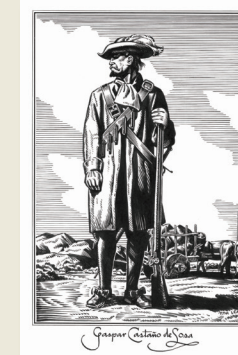


Adair Margo, Frances Bagwell Axelson and Betty Wakefield Haley at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in 2014.

UPON its founding in 2009, member J.P. Bryan challenged the Tom Lea Institute to raise an endowment of \$1.25 million dollars to help it with its work. The group of twelve would be designated The Society of XII Travelers named after Tom Lea's 1946 *Calendar of Twelve Travelers Through the Pass of the North* published by Carl Hertzog. While the book commemorates historic characters who left their imprints upon El Paso, The Society of XII Travelers honors the Distinguished Founding Donors to the Tom Lea Institute.

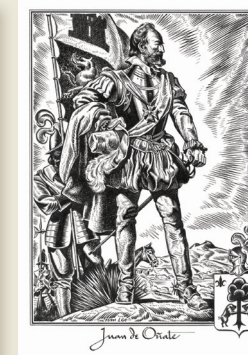
In 2015 we welcomed three new members, who join J.P. and Mary Jon Bryan, Houston (*Cabeza de Vaca Travelers*); Betty Ruth Wakefield Haley, El Paso (*Fray Agustin Rodriguez Traveler*); and Laura and George W. Bush, Dallas (*Antonio De Espejo Traveler*):

The XII Travelers



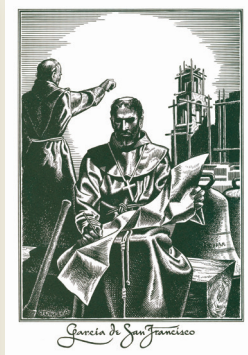
Gaspar Castaño De Sosa Travelers

Jack and Evonne Cardwell, El Paso



Juan De Oñante Travelers

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Fray Garcia de San Francisco Travelers

Dee and Adair Margo, El Paso

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