

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tom Lea Month participation reaches an all-time high

Our 2021 Tom Lea Month celebration was the most successful ever! All events were at capacity and evaluations rated them as 95 percent excellent. Among the events were three exhibitions, a concert at the Hall of State in Dallas, and a dramatic reading of the *Hands of Cantú* at the El Paso Museum of Art, and a festive charreada. All events fulfilled our mission to introduce new audiences to Tom Lea's art and writing while expanding appreciation of Tom Lea's illumination of our history and culture. Comments included, "I had no idea we had all these cultural opportunities in our region!" "Pairing Tom Lea's *Hands of Cantú* illustrations, with music from the 1600s and a wine reception made for an extraordinary afternoon." "The charreada was fantastic! My kids loved seeing the children perform, also!"



WELCOME
to the Tom Lea Institute's new offices!

Join us for appetizers and beverages
January 27, 2021
4:30pm - 6:30 pm
300 E Main St. Suite 205 El Paso, Tx.

Don't miss I Love El Paso

On February 11, Dr. Rick Lange, president of Texas Tech Health Science University, and his wife, Bobette, will tell their story and reveal secrets of balancing the pressures of a successful career, marriage, and family. Come and mingle while enjoying wine, beer, and charcuterie at the Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine. Find more information about this popular annual event on the back page of the newsletter.

Swing by our new offices

Finally, we are ensconced in our new offices and would be so pleased to invite you to our "office warming" on Jan. 27. Enjoy visiting, sipping beverages, appetizers, and viewing our office retrospective exhibition of Tom Lea and José Cisneros art and artifacts.

➔ R.S.V.P. Tomlea.com/events

— Holly Cobb
Executive Director

Tom Lea
INSTITUTE
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I LOVE EL PASO FRIDAY, FEB. 11, 5:30 P.M.

JOIN us! This year's I Love El Paso couple is Rick and Bobette Lange! People warned them that they should not move to El Paso, but they fell in love with the city upon arrival. Rick is the President of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and a cardiologist. In this interview, the Langes will give insights into how they made decisions at critical junctures and what they might do differently. Enjoy wine and beer tastings and hors d'oeuvres.

➔ R.S.V.P. Tomlea.com/events



Upcoming Events

TOM LEA TRAIL JOURNEY TO CASAS GRANDES, MEXICO

APRIL 29 - MAY 1, 2022

A group of 26, including six media, journeyed to Casas Grandes, Mexico, for the inauguration of the Tom Lea Trail in Mexico, continuing from New Mexico and Texas. The trip was so popular, we scheduled another one. There are a few spots left.

➔ INFO: TomLea.com/travel

➔ SIGN UP: aflores@tomlea.net



Boys & Girls Clubs Camp

THE Tom Lea Institute provided a TEKS correlated curriculum and field trip for a Boys & Girls Clubs of El Paso camp for students ages six to 18. This program emphasized helping students learn about the art of Tom Lea and regional history while appreciating the richness of borderland culture.

The program centered on Tom Lea's murals, sculptures, and architecture in downtown El Paso. The artwork builds students' connection with El Paso – most of whom have limited exposure to the treasures of downtown. The *Mighty Horses* Video Game was used to teach about the colonization of the region. The camp of more than 100 students was a partnership between the Tom Lea Institute, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), AT&T, and the Boys & Girls Clubs of El Paso.



BECOME A MEMBER

Keep up with the latest events and support the Institute. Membership levels and benefits are listed online. It's easy to join at TomLea.com

ONLINE



TomLea.com

INSTITUTE STAFF

Holly Cobb EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Arturo Flores MEMBERSHIP & OPERATIONS MANAGER
Susan Gonzalez MARKETING & EDUCATION MANAGER
Mia Attel Melonas COLLECTIONS & TOUR COORDINATOR
Patricia Ladd FINANCE
Lyn Mckinley GRANT WRITER
David Guerin VIDEOGRAPHER

DEARLY DEPARTED MEMBERS

Bob Heasley
Susie Evans
Mary Carolyn DeGroat Fraser
Ron Mulvihill
Peter O'Donnell, Jr.

New Collections and Tour Coordinator



THE Tom Lea Institute has appointed Mia Attel Mellone as Collections and Tour Coordinator. She began as an intern in September and learned how to manage our collection while doing projects for her museum studies class. Mia studies both Art History and Museum Studies at the University of Texas at El Paso. Mia brings a passion for El Paso history and a love for sharing about the region through the art and writings of Tom Lea.

Inside

TOM LEA MONTH

✦ 2021

➔ Photos & more

TOM LEA MONTH 2021

➤ **OCT. 23**
Horse Exhibition

at *Compadre Therapy Inc. Horse Arena*



➤ **OCT. 24**
Old Mt. Franklin Field Trip



➤ **OCT. 24**
Charreada at the *Castro Ranch*



➤ **OCT. 13**
Paso del Norte Loteria at *Pancho Villa Stash House*



➤ **NOV. 14**
Orchestra of New Spain, *Hall of State at Fair Park*



➤ **OCT. 14**
Author John Fitch

at *Péché, Austin*



➤ **OCT. 23**
¡Viva Mexico! *Dinner & show*



➤ **OCT. 21**
Secrets Behind the Equestrian Monument



➤ **OCT. 29 | NOV. 6**
Pottery and Printmaking workshops

with *Fort Bliss*



Our Impact at a Glance

71,872
PARTICIPANTS

13,668,033
MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

200
PRESENTERS

2
COUNTRIES

3
STATES

12
CITIES

7
ONLINE/LIVE VIDEOS

300
MEMBERS OF TOM LEA
INSTITUTE

PHOTOS BY *Cecilia Hager & Susan Gonzalez*

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12 TRAVELERS

Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca Travelers
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Fray Agustin Rodriguez Traveler
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Don Antonio de Espejo Travelers
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Viva Mexico! Dinner and Show
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Dallas Historical Society



What is new in our collection

Tom Lea Bust by Urbici Soler

We are pleased to announce we have a bust of Tom Lea sculpted by artist Urbici Soler in 1946. On loan from Board Member Catherine Lea Weeks, this bust is on display at our office where visitors can see the bronze casting for which Soler was so well known. In exchange for the bust, Lea completed a painting of Soler in oil on canvas. Lea had a talent for fostering great relationships with fellow artists and his relationship with Soler was no exception. The bust was loaned by Weeks for our *Ghost on Mount Cristo Rey* exhibition in October at UTEP.

ABOVE: *Lea and Soler in Lea's studio. Image digital library*



Stampede study

Tom Lea collector Fred Vant Slot sent us photos of his recent acquisition: *Spooked*, 1940. Ink wash and gouache 11" x 9". Collection of Fred Vant Slot. This ink wash is a study for the 1940 *Stampede* mural for the Odessa Post Office. Since 2015, *Stampede* has been part of the permanent collections gallery of the Ellen Noel Art Museum.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: *Susan Gonzales*