

# MUSEO DE LAS AMÉRICAS

861 Santa Fe Drive, Denver, Colorado 80204



**Architect:** Unknown  
**Year Built:** 1991

Located in the heart of the Art District on Santa Fe, Museo de las Américas is the premier Latin American art museum in the Rocky Mountain region. Museo de las Américas is dedicated to educating the community through collecting, preserving, interpreting and exhibiting the diverse arts and cultures of the Americas, from ancient to contemporary, through innovative exhibitions and programs. Museo has served the Denver community for 27 years through award-winning exhibitions, arts education programming and special events.

Museo de las Américas was incorporated in 1991, and in 1992, the museum's first executive director, Jose Aguayo, established an office in one room of the E.T. LaFore cabinet shop at 861 Santa Fe Drive. In 1994, the museum purchased the rest of the property and began a renovation that would be completed in 1996.

In 2002, Museo de las Américas unveiled its extensive collection of Latin American folk art. As part of the plan for expansion, funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Museo constructed a research library in the basement of the 861 Santa Fe building. This library includes nearly 1,000 books on Latin American art, history and culture.

Museo's collection is roughly 3500 objects and growing. Museo is in the process of upgrading textile storage for their many garments and fiber-based household goods. The museum is also fine-tuning the storage and organizational systems in place in the collections room. The long-term goal is to make photographs of objects and interpretation available through the museum's website.

The overall goal is to make Museo's private collection of Pre-Columbian, Spanish Colonial, folk art, fine art, textiles and pottery visible to the public. Many pieces of Museo's collection will be on display through its Sin Fronteras program (Museum without Walls), which was designed to get objects out of the collection room and into public spaces.

This museum is a vibrant part of Denver's cultural landscape and is instrumental in telling the story of the Americas from ancient times to the present.

## References

Museo de las Américas, About Us. Retrieved from <http://museo.org/about-us/>

Museo de las Américas, Collection. Retrieved from <http://museo.org/collections/>

Museo de las Américas, History. Retrieved from <http://museo.org/about-us/history/>