

Indigenous heritage

Passed to Present



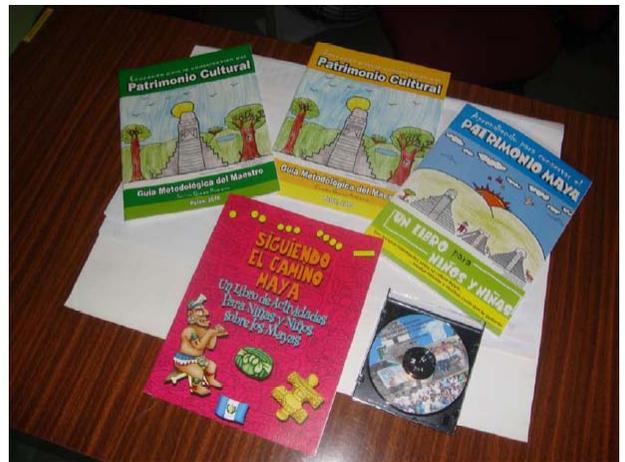
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Newsletter
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Petén Curriculum Reform – Call to Action!

Since 2010, InHerit has partnered with Guatemala-based Fundacion ProPetén to create a specialized classroom curriculum for third and fourth graders in the Petén district of northern Guatemala. This curriculum focuses on the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and discusses ancient Maya ways of life, all with the goal of strengthening cultural identity and heritage awareness. After a testing phase in 2011, the program was expanded in 2012 to reach more than 3000 children in 38 schools in the Petén. Teachers were trained in the new curriculum, and each classroom received a teacher's guide, coloring and activity books for students, and a CD with selected episodes of the cultural heritage-themed radio dramas that we created with ProPetén several years ago. A few months ago,



our partner in curriculum reform, ProPetén, proposed that we expand the number of schools involved in this innovative new curriculum and add a new audio component that is geared towards children. We agreed and are now working with ProPetén to make this happen!

In 2013 we plan to expand the curriculum to an additional 20 schools around major archaeological sites in the Petén and we need your help to support this expansion! Your donations will help us to:

- create additional educational materials for the classroom, including audio-stories about everyday life at a place like Tikal. The stories will be told from the perspective of a child living near the center of these once thriving cities;
- train an additional 160 teachers in the use of the new curriculum;
- give 4800 children the opportunity to learn about their indigenous past and present!

You can make a donation, at any level of support, by visiting our website and clicking the **DONATE** button.

InHerit Organizes Session on Collaborative Archaeology

InHerit has organized a session on collaborative archaeology in the Pacific Basin which will be held at the upcoming meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Honolulu, Hawaii!

Entitled "**Collaborative Research in the Pacific Basin and Beyond: Re-Shaping Archaeological Practice to Provide Space for Communities,**" this session brings together archaeologists working in countries throughout the Pacific Basin to critically examine the practices and conditions that impact collaboration between archaeologists and communities.

Participants in the session come from the common starting point that such collaborative projects are essential for maintaining the relevance of archaeology as a discipline moving forward into the 21st Century.

This session is scheduled for **1pm local Hawaii Time (7pm Eastern) on Friday, April 5**, and you can join the conversation! We will live-tweet the event, and you can follow along and ask questions of the participants by tagging your tweets with **#saacollab**.



Session Line-Up:

Building Bridges towards Effective Collaboration: the Entanglement of Archaeological Praxis with Local Knowledge
Sarah Rowe and Patricia McAnany

Towards a Decentered Archaeology: Archaeology Museums and Online Publics
Dominic Walker

Lessons from the 2012 Field Season of the Ifugao Archaeological Project
Stephen Acabado and Marlon Martin

Collaborative Archaeology in Northwestern Ecuador: Yumbos, Tsachilas, Mestizos and Other Stakeholders
Ronald Lippi and Alejandra Gudiño

Sustainable Indigenous Heritage Management and the Role of Archaeology: A Working Model and Case Study from Western Australia
David Guilfoyle, Myles Mitchell & Ron 'Doc' Reynolds

Patrimonio y Comunidad en Perú: Archaeology as Social Engagement
Brian Billman and Jesus Briceño Rosario

Maori iwi, hapu and Archaeology Research Collaboration?
Des Kahotea and Caroline Phillips

Beyond Modern Maya Campesinos Collaborative Archaeology: Giving the Tools of Archaeological Interpretation to Maya University Students
Ivan Batun Alpuche

Collaborative Archaeology and Community Development at Salinas de los Nueve Cerros, Guatemala
Brent Woodfill

Lee Rains Clauss & Tom Dillehay, Discussants

Bi-Directional Knowledge Exchange Grants – Call for Proposals

InHerit announces a call for proposals for our third annual Bi-Directional Knowledge Exchange Program grants. The purpose is to promote knowledge exchange between archaeological projects and local communities in the Maya region in order to advance collaborative and participatory research.

Proposals are due March 22, 2013.

The full call for proposals, as well as descriptions of past projects, can be found on our **website**.



Dr. McAnany Participates in Amerind Foundation Seminar

InHerit's Executive Director, Dr. Patricia McAnany, participated in an Amerind conference entitled "Archaeology, Relevance, and Activism" Feb 28-March 2, 2013. Organized by Lee Rains Clauss and Sonya Atalay, the conference also included Randall McGuire, John R. Welch, Quetzil Castañeda, T. J. Ferguson, Neal Ferris, George Nicholas, John Norder, Anne Pyburn, and M. Jay Stottman. Three intensive days of presentation and discussion ensued in the beautiful upper Chihuahua desert of the Dragoon Mountains in southern Arizona. Patricia's paper, entitled "Terms of Engagement between Archaeologists and Communities: a View from the Maya Region," explores the importance of transforming the relationship between archaeologists and local communities in order to create a sustainable Maya Archaeology. Her paper also questions the way in which archaeologists and popular writers have been searching for relevance by using thin archaeological evidence to produce cautionary tales that are supposed to avert an apocalyptic future. Plans for publication as well as online materials were hatched during the conference and we will keep you updated on the availability of these materials.

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Alliance receives Lush Charity Grant

Lush Cosmetics is continuing to support heritage mapping in highland Guatemala! Through a generous donation from their Charity Pot program to InHerit's sister organization, nonprofit Alliance for Heritage Conservation, Lush Cosmetics is supporting the third year of this extremely successful collaboration. In cooperation with Guatemalan-based Riecken Foundation and five community-based libraries, this project works to build the capacity of indigenous Mayan communities to protect threatened cultural and natural heritage. In the past two years participating communities have received training in the use and utility of GPS data, and they have formed partnerships among themselves and external organizations to identify and protect their heritage.



The communities have used this new tool to map community boundaries, develop emergency response plans, create reforestation projects, and highlight locations of special cultural importance that need community cooperation to protect. The variety of ways in which the communities have used mapping techniques points to the sustainability of this project and its effectiveness in supporting community self-determination. This is a very exciting project, and we are very thankful for the continued support of Lush Cosmetics!

United States and Belize Pass MOU to Protect Cultural Patrimony

The United States and Belize have just passed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to protect cultural patrimony and prevent the illicit trade of cultural materials. In particular, this agreement targets Belize's African, indigenous Maya, Spanish, and British archaeological heritage. InHerit's Executive Director, Dr. Patricia McAnany was asked by the Society for American Archaeology to provide expert testimony when this case came before the U.S. Cultural Property Advisory Committee. The United States now has agreements with Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua in Central America, providing cooperative protection for cultural heritage across the region.