



...because a shrinking world requires an EXPANDED mind

Fact Sheet

Mission

The Craft and Folk Art Museum champions cultural understanding by encouraging curiosity about our diverse world through the universal lens of art. Our exhibits and programs serve as a catalyst for the exploration of art and ideas that reflect our ever-changing community.

Museum Philosophy

As the twenty-first century brings global cultures closer together, we often find ourselves traveling in unfamiliar lands. CAFAM believes in building common ground in this borderless new landscape that requires inter-cultural fluency. With a belief that our fellow humans should be regarded with generosity and curiosity, CAFAM seeks to create illuminating forums for visitors to experience art that celebrates the universal human experience.

We believe that a peaceful, sustainable world community is possible, and that its possibility begins with the acknowledgement and celebration of our common humanity. As a new world takes shape before our very eyes, CAFAM is committed to acting as a bridge by cultivating a meaningful connection to this global economic, political, and cultural evolution. At CAFAM we strive to develop exhibitions that are thought-provoking, relevant, and nourishing to the spirit.

Museum History

Originally founded in 1965 as the beloved “The Egg and The Eye Café” by the late Edith R. Wyle, who described herself as “a chronic enthusiast of indigenous art”, the Craft and Folk Art Museum opened in 1974. Today, the museum plays a unique role in the cultural landscape of Los Angeles by serving as a platform to cultivate and encourage a curiosity for culture.

Museum Programming

CAFAM believes that folk art comprises artistic expression that surpasses cultural and geographical borders as it reflects universal themes. As varied as the human experience itself, the museum’s programs and exhibitions aim to inspire discussion as well as a closer look. CAFAM showcases artists and artwork that have powerful stories to tell through seven original exhibitions a year, as well as through workshops, lectures, and community events. From photographs of contemporary Iran to ancient symbols of healing and worship; from solar ovens to L.A.’s Asian-Latin fusion, CAFAM exists to joyously promote a strong human interest: by exploring art, universal truths are revealed and our community strengthened.