Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Presents:

“Behind the Scenes at Tucson’s Museums” Tour of the Arizona State Museum and the Arizona History Museum

This tour’s special visits to the Arizona State Museum and Tucson’s Arizona History Museum will introduce you to artifacts often unseen by the public, and to museum professionals who are passionate about caring for Arizona’s largest and most significant archaeological and historical collections.

Established in 1893, the Arizona State Museum (ASM) is the oldest and largest anthropology museum in the Southwest, curating over 20,000 specimens of Indian pottery up to 2,000 years old, and over 35,000 specimens of American Indian basketry spanning 7,000 years. Our morning visit to ASM will enter climate-controlled storerooms where you will come face to face with stunning and incomparable examples of southwestern Indian pottery and basketry; ASM’s state-of-the-art conservation laboratory where you will meet preservation scientists who set international standards for collections care through ground-breaking research; and ASM’s nationally renowned laboratory of zooarchaeology where a curator will demonstrate what can be learned about human behavior by studying animal bones.

After our ASM visit we’ll walk across the street to have your pre-ordered lunch (included by Old Pueblo as part of the tour) at Panera Bread, in Main Gate Square at 845 N. Park Ave.

Following lunch, we will walk a block north to the Arizona History Museum (AHM) at 949 E. 2nd St. This museum was established in 1954 at a previous location by the Arizona Historical Society, which itself was created by Arizona’s First Territorial Legislature in 1864. The Tucson AHM is the largest history museum in Arizona, housing millions of objects representing our state’s post-Spanish contact history. Its exhibits include displays on Geronimo, Wyatt Earp, and even Emperor and Empress Maximilian and Carlota of Mexico, as well as on mining in Arizona and how transportation in our state changed over time. We will explore AHM’s gallery spaces on a guided tour, then join a curator to explore some of its collections holdings to see what’s not on the museum floor.

Tuesday May 19, 2020, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. starting at the Arizona State Museum, 1013 E. University Blvd., Tucson

Contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org to register. Reservation and donation due 10 days after reservation request or 5 p.m. Monday May 11, whichever is earlier.

A $45 donation per participant ($40 for members of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center and Pueblo Grande Museum Auxiliary) includes cost of lunch and helps cover Old Pueblo’s tour expenses and supports its education programs about archaeology and traditional cultures.

Free parking validation in Arizona Historical Society section of the University of Arizona’s parking garage at 1390 E. 2nd St.

Cancellations made 30 days or more before May 11 will not be charged. Cancellations 8 to 30 days before May 11 will be refundable at 50% of the donation paid unless the cancelled space can be filled. Cancellations 0 to 7 days prior to May 11 are not refundable.