Opportunities for Partnerships with the Autry

The Autry Museum of the American West understands and respects the local community’s keen interest in having continued programming at the historic Southwest Museum and Casa de Adobe sites that draws on the historic Southwest Museum of the American Indian Collection. As noted in the Request for Interest (RFI), the Autry encourages respondents to consider the future role of public, educational, and exhibit-based programming at the property. The Autry is committed to exploring those opportunities together with any interested parties.

Programmatic partnerships with the Autry could take shape in a variety of creative and collaborative forms, including identifying, developing, or co-presenting:

- cultural activities and other public events developed in collaboration with local community groups and organizations;
- programs that are inspired by or draw on the legacy of Charles Lummis and/or the history of the site, its location, and its historic collections;
- installations that include or are inspired by materials from the Autry’s Southwest Museum of the American Indian Collection and Braun Research Library. Objects from the collections could be shared on a schedule feasible for the Autry and its partners, with consideration given to the important long-term conservation of the collection;
- site-specific activations or installations of contemporary works by local/regional artists; and/or
- educational events at the Southwest Museum site or at neighboring schools or institutions.

Exhibition projects would require a thorough understanding of and appreciation for the conditions necessary to safely display museum objects and the ethical considerations for exhibiting culturally sensitive materials. Projects would also need to comply with the Autry’s conditions that govern loans of objects and artifacts, which are consistent with current museum industry standards, including those of the American Alliance of Museums.

All possibilities for partnership listed above depend on careful coordination to identify appropriate and viable opportunities and the necessary resources. As part of these efforts, the Autry can facilitate introductions to Autry partners—such as museums, artists, community groups, and schools—to increase the scale and reach of the above activities.

The Autry looks forward to collaborating in these efforts.