

A Message from the CEO & Chairman of the Board



The Ancient Spanish Monastery has served as a museum for 63 years and continues to attract visitors from all over the world. Many are acquainted with the religious use of the building as a home to medieval monks in northern Spain. Others are simply spurred by their curiosity about life in the Middle Ages, the Knights Templar or European history. For others it is the draw of this 12th century building which encompasses both Romanesque and pre-Gothic architecture. And for others it is the park-like atmosphere and tranquility found in our gardens... now a certified National Wildlife Habitat.™

We are working hard to improve our visitors' overall experience. Currently the Museum serves over 50,000 visitors each year with 65% from out-of-town. Last year, The Ancient Spanish Monastery served nearly 900 public, private and home school children. I am indebted to Dr. Daniel Markarian who is developing a curriculum for teachers that will make 100% of our educational programming tied to Florida standards.

All of this requires funds, but we receive no public funding from the government or private funding from churches, universities or foundations. We therefore rely on the generosity of individual contributions and on revenue from visitors.

Your presence tonight and your contributions help to safeguard that future generations will continue to enjoy and to learn from this unique site. We are pleased to be a part of Miami's 'Museum Month' alongside other Dade County historical sites such as Vizcaya, the Venetian Pool, and the Deering Estate.

In 2014 we became a Blue Star Museum™ and now welcome active military and their families at no charge. Also in 2014 we became a member of the American Alliance of Museums and are committed to best practices in conservation and preservation standards.

Thank you for helping us "*Preserve the Legacy.*"

Gregory Mansfield

Dr. Gregory Mansfield
Museum Curator



AT THE INTERSECTION
OF HERITAGE, FAITH,
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