



RALPH T. COE FOUNDATION

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What: *The Mirror Effect: Reflections Upon our Realities*

When: Friday, May 12, 2017 from 5 to 7pm

Where: Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts
1590 B Pacheco Street, Aspen Plaza
Santa Fe, NM 87505

We learn about the history of different religions and cultures in our schools, but here, having the actual object in our hands allows us to experience the history of where the object came from. — Elizabeth Lukee

The Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts' Hands-On Curatorial Program is in its third year working with high school students from the Academy of Technology and the Classics (ATC) and the Santa Fe Indian School (SFIS). Returning students Danielle Cata, Oscar Loya, Elizabeth Lukee, Heaven Talachy, and Shante Toledo have reunited for the third year of the program and are joined by new members, Dynette Chavez, Ashlyn Lovato, and Gailene Morgan. The program provides an opportunity for students to work hands-on with the Coe collection of over 2,000 works of indigenous art from around the world. Through museum visits and weekly sessions, the curators learn how to create their own exhibition from the Coe collection by selecting objects, researching and drafting wall texts, writing press releases, designing graphics and the exhibition layout, as well as creating their own limited-run curator-designed t-shirts in collaboration with Warehouse 21. The participants build their own exhibition from the ground up.

This year's exhibition, "The Mirror Effect: Reflections Upon Our Realities" opens to the public May 12, 5– 7pm. Throughout the exhibit, we found two realities held in the objects: the first being what the artist wanted to convey and the second, what the observer finds from their own personal connection. Each curator begins by selecting four objects from the Coe Collection. The journey from a large collection to a focused exhibition is one of insight and study, which results in a personal connection to the objects. We conduct in-depth research on each item we choose and then present it to our fellow curators. Background information, artist exploration, detailed medium analysis, and the rationale for choosing each item is explained in detail. This information evolves into the focus of the entire exhibition.

Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts

The Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts is dedicated to increasing public awareness, education, and appreciation of indigenous art through its programs, exhibitions, and individual study. The Foundation emphasizes hands-on experience, learning through actively engaging art—the collection you can touch. The Foundation's collection represents worldwide indigenous cultures, with its core encompassing the span of historic to contemporary North American Native works.