



Western Spirit Council (WSC) F.A.Q.

A select Council of elite young Professionals and Community Leaders 35-50 years of age dedicated to sustaining and engaging in Western Culture through the eyes of Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West.

WS Is: Western Spirit Museum

A premier cultural Smithsonian Affiliate institution in Old Town Scottsdale, Arizona established in January 2015. The museum is on the historic grounds of the Loloma Transit Station. With a two-story footprint encompassing 43,000 square feet, and a 12,000 square foot Expansion to feature the renown Eddie Basha collection. The museum showcases the art, culture, and rich history spanning 19 states in the American West, Western Canada, and Mexico. Former Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater, 1980-1996, together with local leader visionaries who envisioned the museum for years, became a reality through the City of Scottsdale's ownership and operation by The Scottsdale Museum of the West, a non-profit established in 2007.

WS Mission

Scottsdale's Museum of the West boldly immerses guests in the unique story of the Greater Western region, illuminating the past to better shape our future.

WS Vision: Educate, Inspire, Engage

Scottsdale's Museum of the West celebrates the West and its importance by informing, educating, inspiring, and engaging museum guests. We offer high-quality exhibitions, educational programs, and community outreach addressing regional history, particularly as reflected by the arts and the dynamic cultural exchanges that have marked the transition of the Old West into the New West.

WS Partners:

Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West is owned by the City of Scottsdale and managed and operated by Scottsdale Museum of the West, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. We rely upon private support including tax-deductible contributions, memberships, exhibition and program sponsorships, and private hosting of events to fund our operation. We work in partnership with Experience Scottsdale.

WSC Mission:

"We are Western Spirit!"

To act as an Ambassador of Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West. With passion and purpose, proactively share the spirit of the west throughout our professional and community goals of engagement. Foster camaraderie, awareness, promotion, fundraising, education and unique experiences of the true Western Spirit ... *our culture, heritage and storytelling.*

Q: HOW ARE WSC MEMBERS SELECTED

A: WSC members are selected throughout Arizona

- WSC potential members identified, recommended throughout Arizona.
- Nomination Forms are extended for a formal review by a Western Spirit committee.
- New Council members are selected by a committee at Western Spirit. Members are invited based on their exceptional professional and community engagement, philanthropy, success, peer acknowledgement and circles of influence.

Q: WHAT IS WSC's ROLE

A: WSC volunteer role is AWARENESS AND FUNDRAISING: Time, Talent, Treasure

- A Western Spirit Volunteer is a liaison in professional and community circles who will proactively engage, promote and participate in guided awareness campaigns and fundraising opportunities under the direction of the department of Advancement.
- Upcoming benchmark events include: Topping Out Party, Expansion Basha Collection Opening, Annual Celebrity Series Event, Indigenous Culinary, Western Week and more.
- Basic WS education and tour sessions will be hosted by the Education and/or Curatorial Departments to familiarize members with WS collections, exhibits, history and storytelling in order to support our common mission.

Q: HOW DO MEMBERS SERVE WSC

A: A WSC term is 2-years

- Members serve a term of 2-years. Each member signs a WSC Membership Pledge Form.
- WSC Leadership Positions: Chair, Vice Chair, Membership and Events Chair are nominated and voted in by Membership every 12 months.
- Members must attend at least 8 of the 12 monthly meetings annually to be considered a member in good standing. Meetings are in-person unless stipulated.
- Annually 30-40 members to uphold the Council's Mission, Engagement goals.

Q: WHAT IS MEMBERS' GIVE/GET PLEDGE

A: WSC Annual Give/Get

- Each Member has a \$5,000 annual (12-month) GIVE/GET pledge. Various methods of Give/Get; Personal donation(s), ticket sales, sponsorship sales, 3rd party event fundraising referrals, new member referral campaign, corporate referral, grant referral, funding source referrals. Quarterly accounting of member Give/Get provided by Membership as update toward meeting annual goal.

Q: HOW DOES WSC ENGAGE

A: WSC engages in professional and community circles

- Proactively create awareness and engage WS within professional circles as well as with community leaders, events and opportunities to advance goals of AWARENESS AND FUNDRIASING initiatives. WSC is designed for internal and external networking business drives community. Synergy ignites giving.
- **WSC MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Members attend a monthly meeting and/or education sessions at Western Spirit and/or designated locations throughout the year. Leadership sets Agenda items and conducts the monthly meeting.
- Monthly Meeting Agenda is distributed at least 2-weeks in advance of the monthly meeting date.
- Additional committee participation or major initiatives may require more than one monthly meeting.

Q: WSC MEMBER BENEFITS

A: WSC MEMBERSHIP GIFTS

- Members receive a complimentary “Contributing Member” Western Spirit membership. Memberships are designed to connect families, businesses and the community to an anchor of education – like Western Spirit which teaches and exhibits the importance of continuing the heritage and traditions of our Western culture.
- Members may utilize Western Spirit as a venue to host an event, tour individuals or groups or design an activity at a significant discount. Please check availability with Events Manager. Members are encouraged to engage their circles of influence to utilize the tremendous assets of Western Spirit to host their seminars, classes and diverse events – from weddings to celebrations of life...
- Members will be invited to numerous exciting events hosted at Western Spirit to enjoy, participate or learn about how the Number #1 Western Spirit Museum is the pride of our community as one of the youngest designed Smithsonian Affiliates in the country!

Q: WHAT FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO BEGIN

A: WSC Forms

- 1. WSC NOMINATION FORM:** There is a Nomination Form Online at www.westernspirit/wsc.org to fill out. Prospects may include their Resume, Vitae or Bio. Questions will be asked like, “Why would you like to be selected as a WSC member?”, what is your present business status, Professional and Community roles, philanthropic Initiatives, are you on any other boards or associations as well as two professional and two community referrals. New members are voted in monthly.
- 2. WSC PLEDGE FORM:** The pledge form is the official pledge agreement between the WSC member and Western Spirit to engage, participate, volunteer and make a ‘give/get’ pledge of \$5,000 annually through various fundraising opportunities. The WSC Pledge Form is to be signed each year of membership term.
- 3. CONTACT:** Please contact Western Spirit Museum’s Advancement Office for further information. Western Spirit Main: 480-686-9539.