



**WESTERN  
SPIRIT**  
SCOTTSDALE'S  
MUSEUM  
OF THE WEST

## **Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West Awarded Prestigious LEED® Green Building Certification**

**SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (April 15, 2016)** – Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West announced today that the museum's building has been certified LEED® Gold. The LEED rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of environmentally conscious buildings.

The 43,000-square-foot, two-story museum building was built and is owned by the City of Scottsdale and is managed and operated by Scottsdale Museum of the West, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It opened January 15, 2015.

Museum Director/CEO Mike Fox stated, "We are so very proud of this achievement, the credit for which goes to the design team of local architects and contractors with whom we were so fortunate to have the privilege to work. Their purposeful designs of the museum and its surrounding campus not only maximize sustainability, but also support the conservation of critical regional resources."

The city's museum development project was led by architectural firm Studio Ma of Phoenix, Christiana Moss and Christopher Alt, principals; landscape architect Colwell Shelor of Phoenix; and contractors Core Construction Company and LGE Design Build Company, both of Phoenix, all under the daily direction and oversight of City of Scottsdale Project Manager Gary Meyer.

Western Spirit achieved LEED Gold certification (60-79 points earned) for implementing practical and measurable strategies and solutions aimed at achieving high performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. The building's design supports these criteria through the following:

- **Sustainable site development**
  - The museum site features excellent public transportation access, development density, and community connectivity
- **Water savings**
  - The building's innovative systems reduce water use by a minimum of 40 percent.
  - The sculpture courtyard's "weeping wall" collects rainwater from the roof and 100 percent of the condensation from the HVAC system.
  - Collected water travels from a bioswale (recessed planter) in the courtyard to a separate bioswale on the museum's south plaza that provides water to the building's landscaping.
  - The museum campus features low-water-use desert plants.

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- **Optimal energy efficiency**
  - The building achieves a 38 percent reduction in energy use over the baseline energy code requirement due to enhanced performance of systems and green design strategies such as desert appropriate building orientation and self-shading.
  - Concrete ribbing on the museum’s facade provides passive vertical shade to the building’s exterior.
  - A “woven” metal overhang on the second level provides self-shading for the building.
  
- **Materials selection**
  - Over 75 percent of nonhazardous debris from the building’s construction was recycled or salvaged.
  - The theater’s sound attenuation blankets are comprised of locally sourced cotton.
  - Materials used throughout the building’s design are regionally and sustainably sourced.
  
- **Indoor environmental quality**
  - The museum features high-level lighting systems that are individually controlled.
  - Low-emitting paints and coatings are used throughout the building to reduce the quantity of indoor air contaminants.
  - The building’s design and performance provide a comfortable thermal environment.

### **About Western Spirit: Scottsdale’s Museum of the West**

Located in Scottsdale’s historic arts district, Western Spirit: Scottsdale’s Museum of the West is a premier cultural destination in a locale that has been called “The West’s Most Western Town.” Open since January 15, 2015, the museum immerses its guests in the essence of the American West, past and present, through stunning artworks by renowned artists, historic artifacts of the Old West, and an ongoing schedule of fun, educational programs and public events.

The \$11.4 million museum features rotating exhibitions of Western art and cultural treasures on loan from some of the world’s foremost collectors and institutions. With exhibitions regularly changing, there is always something new to see and experience at the museum.

In January 2016, *True West* magazine named Western Spirit the “Best Western Museum” in the nation in its annual roundup. In November 2015, the museum was certified a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, making it one of the youngest museums ever to receive this honor. A partnership with Arizona State University will provide additional resources, enabling the museum to become a communication and learning center for studies of the West.

### **Museum Hours**

Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
 Sunday: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Closed Monday

### **Admission Prices**

Adults: \$13  
 Seniors (65+) and Active Military: \$11  
 Students (Full-time with ID) and Children (6-17 years): \$8  
 Members and Children 5 and under: FREE  
 For special group rates, please contact Visitor Services: 480-686-9539

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**Location**

3830 N. Marshall Way  
Scottsdale AZ 85251

Western Spirit is located in downtown Scottsdale's arts district, one block west of Scottsdale Road and one block south of Main Street. The museum is readily accessible from throughout the metro Phoenix area, and is within easy walking distance of numerous art galleries and restaurants.

**Phone:** 480-686-9539

**Website:** [www.scottsdalemuseumwest.org](http://www.scottsdalemuseumwest.org)

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