

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

Underscoring our Sense of Place

The FAC will become a national model of distinction for an arts center that joins with a college to serve the campus, the community, the region, and the world.

Like the college, the FAC's sense of place is one of its most distinctive features. This alliance will encourage and intensify this — including its physical location and the many related opportunities it will enjoy; its distinctive Southwest and Spanish Colonial collections and the local, regional, national, and global interaction they can support; and the regional theatre, classes, and exhibits through which it will especially engage our local community. It also positions us to ask what it means to study the liberal arts and celebrate the arts in the West, making the most of our unique opportunity to be national leaders in both. We will design these efforts to link the FAC to both its distinguished traditions and its future as a national model for an arts center connected to a vibrant, progressive college and an active, curious community. Through these lenses, the FAC will affirm its place among academic arts programs, community arts programs, and the wider fine arts arena. Our strategies could include these ideas:

- **Work as partners with members of local communities to use the Taylor Collection to explore the continuity of cultural expression and production in our region.** We would work with our local partners to decide how cultural objects are viewed, handled, displayed, understood, and preserved and to determine how to sustain the program over time.
- **Expand our work with local communities to explore the cultures, histories, and development of our region** through modes of artistic expression, including those in our collections. Such intellectual endeavors call on methodologies and approaches to knowledge that are at the core of the liberal arts.
- **Underscore our sense of place by designing dynamic programs that connect audiences to historical and contemporary cultures in new or unexpected ways.** We would engage local artists, residents, and visitors in these efforts and use their ideas to expand them. We look forward to the 100th anniversary of the FAC's founding as the Broadmoor Art Academy and the opportunities for innovation and collaboration those celebrations will bring.
- **Use traveling exhibits and programs to share our perspectives and resources, extending our sense of place.** These offerings could travel to regional and national venues, maximizing national exposure to our excellent collections and talents, and showcasing exciting scholarship and critical approaches to studying the arts and culture of our region.
- **Use technology to identify and reach into our larger communities in the arts world.** For example, photography and digitization can open our collections to broader audiences and raise our regional and national profile. We should secure support for this important effort to engage with those who share the heritage of our collections and live throughout the world. ■