

# Museum Happenings

## Spring has Sprung at the Museum

by Moab Museum Staff

Spring is the perfect time of year to hop down to the Museum: enjoy your chilly and flower-filled morning outdoors, followed by a tour around Moab's Uranium History and Legacy at 118 E. Center St. This month we're featuring a free day for Grand County students and the final event in tandem with the current phase of the exhibition, "U92: Moab's Uranium Legacy." Join us this May from Tuesday-Saturday, 9am-5pm!

### Día del Niño: Celebrating on May 3<sup>rd</sup>

We're celebrating Día del Niño (Children's Day) on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, a holiday celebrated in various ways across the world but specifically throughout Mexico, and this year we are partnering with Grand County School District to make the Museum FREE, with presentation of a valid student I.D. to all Grand County students AND their families! Stop by on Saturday to view the current Uranium exhibition and explore Moab's diverse and incredible history!

### Mary Dickson: Downwinders at the MARC

On Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., Mary Dickson presents a powerful speech, "The Far-Reaching Consequences of Nuclear Weapons," delving into the devastating and lasting impacts of nuclear weapons testing and production on human health and the environment. Drawing from her personal experiences as a "downwinder" affected by atmospheric tests at the Nevada Test Site, Dickson highlights the widespread legacy of fallout and the enduring suffering caused by nuclear weapons. She underscores the need for public awareness of the continuing health impacts of nuclear weapons, the urgent need for justice for victims, and the prevention of resumed nuclear testing.

Mary Dickson's presentation is offered at a \$15 suggested donation; support programming, exhibitions, and events in any way that feels meaningful to you! We look forward to seeing you there!

### U92: Phase II in the Works

Phase II of the current exhibition "U92: Moab's Uranium Legacy" is in the works! Our staff, board, and especially the exhibitions team are hard at work conducting research for the launch of Phase II of this stellar exhibition. Phase II aims to focus on the human health and environmental impact of Uranium mining on our area and the downstream and downwind effects, various and wide-ranging as they are. We'll kick off Phase II with

an opening at the Museum on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> with a special presentation by Dr. Tommy Rock of the Navajo Nation, who discusses water, uranium, and the peopled-impact across the Colorado Plateau. Reach out directly to [info@moabmuseum.org](mailto:info@moabmuseum.org) if you'd like to be involved via oral histories, a volunteer day with the Museum staff, and more!



**MOAB MUSEUM:** Committed to preserving the region's history through engaging storytelling and enriching programs.

**MOAB MUSEUM**  
SMALL MUSEUM. BIG STORIES.

**Phase II Opens**  
**July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Uranium shaped Moab and Moab's uranium shaped the world. From early vanadium prospecting, through the Cold War to today, the rocks of the Moab region have played an essential role in human history. Uranium mining has indelibly shaped Moab, from the economy to the culture to the landscape. Explore the story of uranium and the inseparable story of Moab.

**U92: Moab's Uranium Legacy**

Tuesday - Saturday, 9am-5pm • 435-259-7985 • [moabmuseum.org](http://moabmuseum.org)



## Moab Museum Announces New Co-Leadership Model Reflecting Community Values

by Moab Museum Staff

The Moab Museum is proud to announce a new chapter in its organizational leadership with the adoption of a collaborative co-management structure. Through the remainder of 2025, the Museum will be led by a team of four directors: Tara Beresh, Director of Curation and Exhibits; Allie Donnell, Director of Collections; Diego Velasquez, Director of Communications; and Megan Vickery, Director of Programs.

transparent approach to its operations, programming, funding, exhibitions, and engagement with the public.

Allie Donnell, Director of Collections shared, "I think of this leadership model like a rain catch. The broader reach we have into the community via four individuals the better informed are decisions we make for the museum. This goes for collections stewardship, too; what we keep and how we keep it is decided upon collaboratively based on collective investment in the wellbeing of our--the community's--collection."

Director of Curation and Exhibitions, Tara Beresh, added, "Non-profit co-leadership is more common than we realize. The challenges associated with the model are surpassed by the advantage of ensuring the institution is run entirely for the benefit of the community. When a collective of employees and trustees with diverse perspectives unite for a common goal, and are authentically invested in serving the people, everyone wins. The Moab Museum is unique from most tiny museums: for being so small, it has not one or two, but four highly trained, impassioned individuals with distinctly different skill-based roles. Each role respects, depends on, and works in concert with the others, amounting to a balance of power. Coming from years of communicating productively together on all fronts, the outlook is solid."

The Museum's Board of Trustees has endorsed this interim co-management approach as an innovative step toward cultivating a sustainable and participatory future. This ten-month pilot period will serve as a time of experimentation, reflection, and community dialogue as the Museum explores the potential of shared leadership in practice. For the first few months under co-management,

the Museum has seen its busiest admissions month on record, hosted a fantastically successful Annual Gala, raising a total of \$18,250 towards exhibitions, programs, and special events, and plans to open Phase II of "U92: Moab's Uranium Legacy" on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> with special guest Dr. Tommy Rock of the Navajo Nation.

In the words of Director of Programs, Megan Vickery, "Co-leadership is a huge step forward in building a museum that is by and for our community: collaboration is essential, transparency and humility are prioritized, and ideas have the support and input needed to hit the ground running. The first two months of co-leadership have brought renewed energy not only to our team, but also to our broader community; bringing new ideas, perspectives, and a strong vision for the future of the Moab Museum."

The team has been buoyed by initial success of our nonprofit leadership transition and greatly looks forward to displaying the potential of this model through the rest of 2025.



Moab Museum team. L to R (Diego Velasquez, Tara Beresh, Megan Vickery, Allie Donnell). Photo by Ginger Cyan.

This co-led model reflects the democratic values of our community and aligns with the evolving ethos of the nonprofit sector. By distributing leadership across a team of experienced and dedicated professionals, the Moab Museum aims to foster a more inclusive, responsive, and



**Hours:**  
9am-5pm  
Tuesday-Saturday

**118 E. Center Street**  
**Moab, Utah**

**435-259-7985**

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