



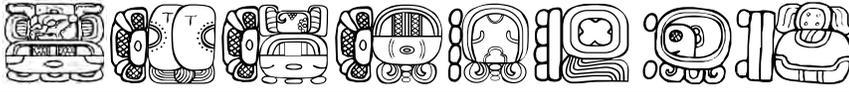
# IMS EXPLORER

Institute of Maya Studies

A monthly newsletter published by the **Institute of Maya Studies**

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Maya enthusiasts providing public education for 42 years



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## Investigations Using New Techniques Help Put the Red Queen Back Into the Spotlight

The skeletal remains of the so-called "Red Queen", the enigmatic individual discovered at Palenque, are being scientifically analyzed using a number of techniques.

It is still unclear whether the Red Queen who died 1,300 years ago, was the wife of Pakal II or if she was a ruler of the ancient Maya metropolis once known as Lakamhá (place of the big waters).



*Facial reconstruction and original remains. The Red Queen gained her name from the red cinnabar covering everything in the coffin including the green stone mask. Image: INAH.*

In a recent interview, Lourdes Muñoz explained that before the remains of the Red Queen were returned to Palenque in June 2012, they managed to extract a collagen sample from one of her vertebrae for further studies.

Javier Cervini, a specialist in geochemistry at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, examined the sample and was convinced that the preservation of the collagen fibers from the vertebrae was good enough to

proceed and attempt to extract DNA. Although it's not the first time that the Red Queen's remains have been subject to study, this



*The green stone mask as photographed by Scott Allen in 2006.*

recent investigation is also utilizing DNA mitochondrial examination to provide new information about this mysterious figure in Maya history.

The tombs of both the Red Queen and Pakal II are the largest and most elaborate of all those discovered in the ancient city of Palenque. Each has been archaeologically dated by the type of ceramic offerings found within them – to between 600 and 700 CE.

### A process of deduction

Archaeologist Eduardo Ramos explains that the Red Queen has been linked to several characters from Maya royalty including the lady Tz'ak-b'u Ajaw, wife of Pakal; lady Kinuww Mat, wife of another dignitary: Batz Chan Mat; and Men Nik, wife of K'inich Ahkal Mo'Nahb' III. However, the latter two have now been discarded because of their presence within the later 8th century Palenque dynasty.

Using her DNA, carbon 14 dating and even facial reconstruction studies

### IMS Presentation: March 20, 8 pm



### "Cacao and Jade: The Diffusion of the Calendars Along Pre-Classic Maya Trade Routes"

with Explorer Editor **Jim Reed**

the team was also able to discard another possible candidate called *Muwaan Mat*,  
*continued on page 3*



**Jim Reed,**  
Editor

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Dr. George Bey does a good job keeping his research in the headlines:

## Maya "Fat God" Platter Uncovered in Kiucic

Located in the Puuc Hills of the Yucatán, the Maya site of Kiucic turns out to boast a pyramid of surprising antiquity, dating back to 700 BCE, and more signs of rapid "collapse" as the ancient culture's era ended.

An international team of archaeologists reports that a well-known Maya site had its origins further back in time than anyone first supposed. Nestled in the hilly interior of Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula, researchers have recently uncovered a pyramid structure that dates back to 700 BCE, as shown by carbon dating. Long seen as a transitional corridor between the ancient Maya cities of the Highlands and Lowlands, and the later ones of the Yucatán coast, the hilly "Puuc" region that is home to Kiucic and many other sites, instead, looks like a longtime home of the vanished culture.

"They were living here going way back," says archaeologist George Bey of Millsaps College in Jackson, MS. The pyramid was discovered long ago, when writer John Lloyd Stephens visited Kiucic in the 1840s, and dates to after 800 CE, when the site was thriving. But now, excavation to the base of



Three "Fat God" feet from the platter recovered at Kiucic. The Fat God is tied to concepts of territory and gluttony. Photo: Kaxil Kiucic/Millsaps.

the four-story structure that is located in the center of Kiucic has helped pin down its birth date, showing it started out as a ceremonial platform, as was typical of ancient Maya towns and cities.

In 2010, Bey and Mexican archaeologist Tomás Gallareta Negrón of INAH reported that artifacts left at one of the houses on a hilltop overlooking Kiucic indicated the site had undergone rapid abandonment around 880 CE, part of the famed collapse of ancient Maya cities at the time.

One of the valuable artifacts the residents left behind was a food serving bowl or platter with three pedestal feet. Each foot depicted the Maya "Fat God," a patron of feasting, appropriately enough, next to tools for applying stucco to homes. Apparently, the heavy feasting platter was too big to take when the homeowner left (sort of like leaving the family silver behind when going on a vacation now), but such a valuable object would have been taken if a permanent move were planned, commented Bey.

Earlier discoveries at the site included grinding stones left tilted against doorways, kitchen implements left stacked in rooms and remains of ancestors left behind that Maya traditions would have typically seen as needing removal if a place faced permanent abandonment. Instead, it looks like the residents just left, expecting to shortly return. But they never did. "These were the Maya middle class,



View of west façade of Structure 1, Group 2, Kiucic, by Steve Radzi. Check out more of Steve's available artwork at: [www.mayavision.com](http://www.mayavision.com)



Ancient Maya home under excavation at Kiucic. Photo: Kaxil Kiucic.



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and they were doing well," said Bey.

More than six million Maya still live in Mexico and Central America today, but the rulers and the pyramid cities of the era were abandoned in a diaspora that modern-day scholars have tied to long-term drought, over-farming and other factors.

*continued on page 3*

## Investigations Using New Techniques Help Put the Red Queen Back Into the Spotlight

continued from page 1

mother of Pakal. The process of elimination of possible candidates leads the researchers to the conclusion that the Red Queen is Tz'ak-b'u Ajaw, wife of Pakal, mother of two Palenque dignitaries and the grandmother of the last Maya ruler.

In spite of previous investigations estimating that the Red Queen must have died at age 60, the physical anthropologist at INAH, Arturo Romano, said it would have been difficult (though not impossible) for her to have reached that age given her severe osteoporosis.

### Mystery not over yet

Regardless of what the new analysis has so far provided, all the investigators (archaeologists, bioarchaeologists, chemists and physical anthropologists) concede that the Red Queen's biography is incomplete, and as her discoverer Arnoldo González points out in his book, *The Red Queen*:

Double crown, face mask, and beads of the sovereign Maya queen. Image: INAH



A Royal Tomb, "It is possible that in the near future new archaeological data that remained hidden in the soil will allow us to relate the queen with another member of her family. For example, in another central part of the city, they may find the tomb of Kan B'alam (one of the sons of Tz'ak-b'u Ajaw), which has so far eluded archaeological excavation

Above right: The remains of the Red Queen which were discovered within a huge stone sarcophagus within Temple XIII at Palenque. Image: INAH



and quite possibly also been overlooked by grave robbers" 🏰

Source: From an INAH article posted 1/24/2013 at: [www.pasthorizonspr.com](http://www.pasthorizonspr.com). Submitted by Scott Allen.

## Maya "Fat God" Platter Uncovered in Kiuic

continued from page 2

The team hopes that analysis of the site, slowly being unearthed by archaeologists, provides a time capsule of the time when abandonment took place at Kiuic, and might offer insight into its occurrence elsewhere.

### Kaxil Kiuic Biocultural Reserve

The Maya regarded the jaguar as king of the forest, a metaphor for greatness, perfection and supernatural power. For more than 10 years, the Kaxil

National Geographic created a special documentary – that was broadcast nationally on PBS in the first half of 2012 – about new ideas concerning the rise of the Maya civilization and the eventual abandonment of sites like Kiuic. The crews were in Yucatán for the entire six-week duration of Dr. Bey's stay and filmed at sites such as Kiuic, Uxmal, Xocnaceh, and Yaxhom. "Quest for the Lost Maya" is available for viewing at: [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org).

Bey said, "We were really excited because it's important for people outside of academia to learn about the Maya and see what archaeology looks like." Find out about the Millsaps Archaeology minor and other study abroad opportunities at Millsaps, at: [www.millsaps.edu](http://www.millsaps.edu)



Kiuic Biocultural Reserve (KKBR), has been owned by Millsaps through its Mexican NGO Kaxil Kiuic. Trail cameras provide evidence that four species of large felines still live in this formerly neglected area.

Source: Condensed from an article by Dan Vergano, released 1/5/2013 at: [www.usatoday.com](http://www.usatoday.com). Sent in by Scott Allen.

### A Painted Capstone

In a personal communication (not a part of the original USA Today article), Dr. Bey noted "Last summer, we recovered a capstone from a vaulted structure that we are excavating

at Escalera al Cielo (EAC) which is located about 1.4 km from the site center of Kiuic. It is the same hill-top house mentioned by Tomás Gallareta Negrón and EAC is shown in the National Geographic documentary (see caption above). We recovered this capstone from a very nice two-room vaulted structure on top of EAC. It is badly damaged, but was well executed in red paint.

Hopefully, this summer, when we excavate the second room, we will find a better preserved one! We think it is quite remarkable to find such a capstone in a non-royal building so far from the site." 🏰 ●●●



Captured by a trail video camera in the KKBR, the presence of this female suggests the possibility that jaguars (and ocelots) breed in this area. By searching "Kaxil Kiuic," you can see the video at: <http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com>

# The Gran Museo del Mundo Maya

By Cathi Considine

After a rousing trip with fellow “apoclypteros” to Chichén Itzá for the turn of the bak'tun, we had the opportunity to visit the recently opened Gran Museo del Mundo Maya in Mérida (top right). It's an impressive state-of-the-art building, built by a local architectural design group headed by Ricardo Combaluzier, William Ramírez and Josefina Rivas. Supposedly as much steel was used in its construction as in the Eiffel Tower.

You are greeted by a massive “drum” of green steel girders apparently evoking the sacred ceiba tree. The structure houses the “Sala Mayamax” for special events and presentations, including a sound and light show by the French artist Xavier de Richemont.

Upon entry, you find a darkened room presenting the age of dinosaurs up through its ending with the meteorite impact at Chicxulub. The rooms then “progress” backward from today's Maya through the colonial era to the ancestral Maya. We enjoyed seeing a complete reproduction of the Madrid Codex, and marvelled at the reconstructions of the façade of Ek' Balam's Structure I (middle right) and the Pyramid of Masks from Kohunlich (lower middle right).



We also visited the Museo de la Guerra de Castas in Tihosuco, Quintana Roo. One of the most interesting displays worth sharing with Explorer readers is the portrait bust of Bernardino Cen. Also on display is Cen's skull that was utilized to get the dimensions for the reconstruction. Cen was an Ahau K'atun K'iuik', General de la Plaza – the supreme commander of Maya military forces during the Caste Wars (1847–1901 CE). This position was held by several different individuals, but there is evidence that the first, most effective and longest serving General of the Plaza was Bernardino Cen. The life-like homage



evokes the pathos and memory of the uprising.

*The entrance to the museum is quite dramatic – a mix of steel and granite, accented with modern photography.*



Cathi is an IMS member. All photos by Chris Considine.

In every room one looks, the artifacts are intermingled with interactive and audiovisual displays. One interactive display gives your birth date in Long Count glyphs, and will email your “horoscope” to you. Unfortunately, I've also started receiving astrological spam messages!

Among the exhibits is a scientific reconstruction of the head of Bernardino Cen, a rebel Maya leader who was killed in 1875 during the Caste Wars (bottom left).

My favorite audio visual production took place in the theater inside the Ek' Balam reconstruction. Even though all the exhibits are in Spanish, English and Maya, the audio visuals are labeled in Spanish only. It was a visually compelling story of the Hero Twins and the story of creation, with screens representing the cosmos on the ceiling, Xilbalba below, on the floor, and our middle world on the walls.

The Gran Museo is located at the north end of the city and fairly easy to find, but not really walkable from the Centro “historic” district.

There are different attendance prices for foreigners, other Mexicans and Yucatán residents. I'm told that the museum was developed by the state of Yucatán, with virtually no participation by INAH.

Unfortunately, we had limited time to spend at the museum, but we

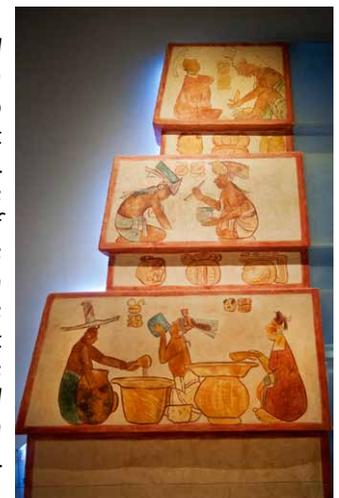


Structure I stucco façade reconstruction from Ek' Balam with theater inside.



Reconstructed Pyramid of Masks from Kohunlich with theater inside.

Reconstructed murals from Ch'ik Nahb Group at Calakmul. The styles of some of the vessels depicted on the murals suggest that it was decorated between 620–700 CE.



decided that we'd definitely return someday to enjoy and experience this dynamic panorama of Maya culture and history. You can check out their website at: [www.granmuseodelmundomaya.com](http://www.granmuseodelmundomaya.com) 🏠

## INAH Archaeologists Study Complex Panel of 1,000-year-old Petroglyphs in Nayarit

Archaeologists from the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH-Conaculta) recently found a complex panel of petroglyphs that must have been carved between 850 and 1,350 CE (some of which are over 1,000 years old), in a site called “Cantil de las Animas” (Soul Ledge) near the town of Jesus María Cortés in Tepic, Nayarit.

The bas-relief symbolic representations, which are attributed to ancient groups of the Aztlan culture, were located in a practically new archaeological zone of the region – Nayarit’s mountainous zone of the southern high plateau – and they cover a surface of about 13.12 feet (4 meters) long and 6.56 feet (2 meters) wide. The panel faces south.

“The symbolic content of the representations,” noted archaeologist Manuel Garduño Ambriz from INAH Center in Nayarit, “seems to divide the petroglyph panel composition in two parts. In the eastern half we found designs related to fertility-fecundity: rain clouds, sectioned snail shells, and vulva symbols.



*In the eastern half archaeologists found designs related to fertility-fecundity: rain clouds, sectioned snail shells, and vulva symbols. Photo: Mauricio Garduño INAH.*

snail shells, along with vulva symbols; in the western half, we found cranium profiles whose front point to the east, precisely towards the sunrise.”

Archaeologist Mauricio Garduño added, “The petroglyph iconography, is linked to the pictorial tradition of the ancient groups of the Aztlan Culture, who, during 850–900 CE to 1,350 CE, were settled primarily in the lower coastal regions of the north of Nayarit and south of Sinaloa”. Mauricio also pointed out that within the group of petroglyphs of “Cantil de las Animas” it is also possible to recognize two

distinct pictorial styles of Aztlan’s iconography – one with realistic or figurative representations

of curved design, and schematic designs – that are distinguished by their rigid angular lines.

Another important aspect that must be investigated (in regard to the panel of petroglyphs), is to determine if it was also used as an astronomical indicator since the vertical level in which these designs are oriented is over an east-west axis.

“Eventually, it will be necessary to make archeological and astronomical observations to determine the precise date at which the sun passes through this place, and to determine the function of this site in the annual ritual cycle and in the

cultural interaction sphere of Aztlan, between the communities in the mountain range and the high plateau”.

Othon Yaroslav Quiroga, delegate of INAH in Nayarit, announced that it will be necessary to implement an archaeological program to recognize, register and investigate the high plateau valleys. The objective will be to design concrete strategies in favor of protecting the archaeological patrimony of the region. ▲

Source: From an INAH article released 1/27/2013 at: [www.artdaily.org](http://www.artdaily.org). Submitted by Scott Allen.

## Archaeologists Find Ancient Jade Paint Palette Pendant in Belize

Archaeologists from Trent University have discovered a rare jade artifact, one of the first of its kind to be found in an archaeological dig, while excavating the ancient Maya city of Ka’Kabish in Belize.

The six-centimeter jade object, known as a Paint Palette Pendant, was unearthed in June, 2012, from a 2,700-year-old grave beneath the Ka’Kabish plaza along with 16 other jade artifacts. Similar objects have been recovered in Mesoamerica, but this is one of the first times a Paint Palette Pendant has been found in a secure archaeological site.

“Examples of these objects exist in museums, but they are largely

*Example of an Olmec-style Paint Palette Pendant from Mike Ruggeri’s Olmec Art Portfolio. See more examples at: <http://goo.gl/VuT50>*



from private collections, meaning they lack the archaeological details necessary for us to understand how and when these pieces were used,” said Dr. Helen Haines, assistant professor of Anthropology at Trent University and Ka’Kabish research project director. “These objects are rare to begin with and this is one of only two of this type that have been found undisturbed.

I believe the person buried there could be one of the city’s founders.”

Source: From an article released 1/24/2013 at: [www.trentu.ca](http://www.trentu.ca). Submitted by Mike Ruggeri.

**Editor’s note:** In a personal communication, Justin Kerr points out that these pendants are not “spoons”; but the forerunners of the Maya shell *sabak kuck* or ink containers that are seen on a number of Maya cylinders. ■

## Earliest Evidence of Chocolate in North America

They were humble farmers who grew corn and dwelt in subterranean pit houses. But the people who lived 1,200 years ago in a Utah village known as Site 13, near Canyonlands National Park in Utah, seem to have had at least one indulgence: chocolate.

Researchers report that half a dozen bowls excavated from the area contain traces of chocolate, the earliest known in North America. The finding implies that by the end of the 8th century CE, cacao beans, which grow only in the tropics, were being imported to Utah from orchards thousands of kilometers away.

The discovery could force archaeologists to rethink the widely held view that the early people of the northern Southwest, who would go on to build enormous masonry "great houses" at New Mexico's Chaco Canyon and create fine pottery, had little interaction with their neighbors in Mesoamerica. Other scientists are intrigued by the new claim, but also skeptical.

The findings stem from collaboration between Dorothy Washburn, an archaeologist at the University of Pennsylvania's University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Philadelphia, and her husband William Washburn,

*Chocolate by the bowlful. These pottery bowls from the American Southwest show traces of several compounds in chocolate.*

Credit: Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology/Harvard University

a chemist at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Princeton, NJ.

In an earlier study, they detected evidence of cacao in pottery from 11th century burial sites in New Mexico's Chaco Canyon and in vessels from other Southwestern sites. As a follow-up, the scientists tested bowls excavated in the 1930s from Site 13, which dates to roughly 770 CE.

The researchers swirled water in the bowls, then analyzed the compounds in the rinse water with a high-resolution liquid chromatograph mass spectrometer, an instrument that separates the components of a mixture and then determines the mass of each. They found traces of theobromine and caffeine, both found in cacao, in nearly every Site 13 bowl they tested. They also found the telltale molecules in vessels from other villages close to Site 13 and from two Colorado villages.

Site 13's cacao is the oldest in North America, eclipsing the Chaco chocolate by some 300 years. Humanity's cacao habit dates back to at least 1,900 BCE to 1,500 BCE, when Mexico's Mokaya people were already enjoying a chocolate drink.



In Mesoamerica, cacao was mostly a food of the elite, who sipped a foamy chocolate drink, often spiked with spices, at banquets and other ceremonial occasions. But an 8th century village such as Site 13 probably would have been classless, so the chocolate would've been consumed by ordinary people. 🏰

Source: From an article by Traci Watson released 1/22/2013 at: <http://news.sciencemag.org>. Submitted by Mike Ruggeri and Scott Allen.

### Editor's Corner:

## Cacao On the Move

The article above provides an excellent segue into the subject of Jim Reed's up-and-coming program at the IMS on March 20.

The cultivation of cacao is reported to have originated in the Amazon Basin of South America before 3,000 BCE. Probably by canoe, but possibly by overland routes, cacao reached and was cultivated in the Ulua Valley of Honduras by 1,900 BCE.

From there, the knowledge of cacao spread across land trade routes to

Guatemala's Pacific coast and the Soconusco region of southern Mexico, reaching Paso de La Amada by 1,700 BCE.

Cacao was introduced to the Olmec region around Tres Zapotes by 1,500 BCE. Its popularity spread north, and cacao actually reached Pueblo Bonito, NM, and other centers like Site 13 in the Four Corners area of the U.S., from 770 to 1,128 CE.

Based on the research of archaeologist Mary Lou Ridinger, I've created a totally new video documentary for my program "Cacao and Jade: The Diffusion of the Calendars Along



Pre-Classic Maya Trade Routes". I first captured Google satellite images from above the Americas, especially of the Mesoamerican area, and have created a whole new series of informative maps. See you March 20. *Be there!* 🏰

**Institute of Maya Studies Line-up of Presentations!**

**March 13, 2013: IMS Explorer Session:**

**“Engineering and Building Construction”**

**with IMS Director of Research  
Joaquín J. Rodríguez III, P.E.**



*What gives Labná its fame is its great Maya arch, which connects two adjacent quadrangles.*

Most visitors to archaeological sites left by the Maya in the jungles and forests of Mesoamerica are left in awe by their impressive remains. How could people without metal or beasts of burden move big stones to build such structures? What kind of manpower did they need to build pyramids?



*The entrance to the elaborately constructed Nunnery Quadrangle at Uxmal is through a giant corbelled arch.*

One thing is clear: the pyramids and palaces of the Maya were built by the Maya for the Maya. After years of study, we have come to

the conclusion they were quite advanced engineers. We can tell how slowly they developed larger open spaces, double-vaulted rooms and had the knowledge of the true arch. The ancient Maya also had advanced water management systems. Though their land of habitation was riddled by devastating earthquakes and hurricanes, there's much left that allows a good study of their construction knowledge.

**March 20: IMS Presentation:**

**“Cacao and Jade: The Diffusion of the Calendars  
Along Pre-Classic Maya Trade Routes”**

**with Explorer Editor Jim Reed**



Before the splendor of Maya art and architecture piqued the interest of archaeologists from around the world, the Maya living in Pre-Classic times cherished two products of the earth above all others: cacao and jade. There are strong clues that the trade of both these items in the early years was instrumental in the growth and accomplishments of the Classic Maya, spurred on by the desires of Maya royalty. Could those same trade routes also have been used by shamans and time-keepers to spread knowledge about their evolving calendar cycles and associated rituals? History is filled with examples of missionaries joining caravans of trade with the purpose of proselytizing along the way. For the spiritual Maya of Pre-Classic times, the calendars needed to be shared.

*Based on the research of archaeologist Mary Lou Ridinger.*



**All meetings are 8 pm • Institute of Maya Studies  
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A notice from Maya researcher Carl Callaway, all the way from Geelong, Australia:

## A Joan W. Patten Biography and Maya Rubbing Compilation

Hello Maya enthusiasts!

It has taken me many moons, but I finally completed a book with a short ten-page biography along with a compilation of Maya rubbings by the late Joan W. Patten. While working for the Guatemalan Government in the '60s and '70s, she fashioned a large corpus of over 900 Maya rubbings, as well as replicas of Maya sculpture:

American Sculptor Joan W. Patten (1924–2005) lived and traveled extensively throughout Guatemala from 1965–1982. The Guatemalan Government granted Joan official, carte blanche permission to make molds, casts and replicas of ancient Pre-Classic (1,500 BCE–250 CE) and Classic (250–900 CE) Maya relief sculpture. Her replicas of Maya stelae currently stand in Guatemala's Museo Nacional de Arqueología y Etnología, the National Zoo and at the Museo Popol Vuh gardens at Francisco Marroquín University. In addition to the replicas, she executed hundreds of rubbings in oils on colored fabric. With a sculptor's touch and infinite patience, she rendered images onto cloth that are



Detail of Stela 2, Tikal.



Detail of Altar 5, Tikal.



Joan hard at work on a rubbing.

remarkably sharp in detail and line. The rubbings include images that preserve an abundance of information about Maya sculptural traditions, iconography, hieroglyphic writing, mythology and history.

A selection of these rubbings can be viewed at the Mayaweb Art site, under the "rubbings" tab: <http://mayawebart.com/list-of-patten-rubbings-htm.htm>

A preview of the book and book list is also available at: <http://mayawebart.com/publications.htm>  
It's been a seven-year labor of love, Carl Callaway

### Upcoming Events at the IMS:

March 13 • 8 pm: *IMS Explorer Session*  
**"Engineering and Building Construction"** – Explore why so much remains after more than 1,000 years, with IMS Director of Research, **Joaquín J. Rodríguez III**, PE, SECB

March 20: • 8 pm: *IMS Program*  
**"Cacao and Jade: The Diffusion of the Calendars Along Pre-Classic Maya Trade Routes"**  
– An all-new visual presentation created by *Explorer* editor **Jim Reed**.

April 10 • 8 pm: *IMS Explorer Session*  
**"Maya Architecture"** – What the ancient Maya could do with cut stone and mortar will amaze you! With our own IMS President and architect **Rick Slazyk**, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP.

April 17 • 8 pm: *IMS Program*  
**"Illustrating Maya Sites of Central America"** – Scientific rendering versus artistic interpretation, with artist **Steve Radzi**. Check out his portfolio at: [www.mayavision.com](http://www.mayavision.com)

### Upcoming Events and Announcements:

At Hamline University, Saint Paul, MN:  
March 15: *Lecture, 7:30 pm*  
**"Ancient Maya Creator Gods"**  
March 16: *Workshop, 9 am – 4 pm*  
**"The Iconography of the Gods from the Popul Vuh and Classic Period Maya Art"**  
– Themes of the Maya Society of Minnesota lecture and day-long workshop by Karen Bassie-Sweet, Research Associate, Department of Archaeology, University of Calgary, Canada and Director of the Jolja Cave Project, Chiapas, MX. Get more info at: <http://sites.hamline.edu/mayasociety>

April 12–13: *Conference*  
**"Jaguars, Eagles & Feathered Serpents: Mesoamerica Re-explored"** – A two-day symposium in homage to Michael Coe, with Michael Coe, Karl Taube, Mary Miller, and more. At the Art History Society of USCLA, in Los Angeles, CA. More info at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/426759957409777>

Through June 30: *Exhibit*  
**"Aztec to Zapotec: Selections from the Ancient Americas Collection"** – See more than 180 artifacts from the Aztec, Maya, Moche, Zapotec, Inka and Nasca cultures. At the Orlando Museum of Art (OMA) in Orlando, FL. For additional info visit: [www.omart.org/exhibitions/aztec-zapotec-ii](http://www.omart.org/exhibitions/aztec-zapotec-ii)

Oct. 28–Nov. 2: *Wayeb Conference*  
**"Post-Apocalypse: Crisis and Resilience in the Maya World"**  
– Theme of the 18th European Maya Conference to be held in Brussels, Belgium. There is a call for papers at: [callforpapers@wayeb.org](mailto:callforpapers@wayeb.org). For info, go to: [www.wayeb.org/conferencesevents/emc\\_nowcallforpapers.php](http://www.wayeb.org/conferencesevents/emc_nowcallforpapers.php)

Ongoing: *Online Exhibition*  
**"Chocolate, the Exhibition"** – In conjunction with the The Field Museum of Chicago's ongoing museum exhibit, check out: [www.fieldmuseum.org/chocolate](http://www.fieldmuseum.org/chocolate)



# EXPLORER

Please note that all articles and news items for the **IMS Explorer** must be submitted to the Newsletter Editor by the first Wednesday of the month.  
E-mail news items and images to: [mayaman@bellsouth.net](mailto:mayaman@bellsouth.net)