

## Latin American Gallery

Reading Public Museum • Reading, Pennsylvania

### Project Details

**Scope:** Visitor Center, 1,100 sf

**Budget:** \$310,000

### Project Team

**Design:** Edward Krent, Edward Malouf

**Graphics:** Edward Malouf, Jim Booth

**Lighting:** Edward Malouf

**Development:** Jill Domenici

**Fabrication:** Explus

Using dramatic lighting, textures and color, we designed a paradigm-shifting environment to display the Reading Public Museum's collection of richly symbolic sacred vessels. We created an interior space that transforms traditional display models and uses design to optimize visitors' engagement with the complex meanings of the vessels' forms and patterns. The exhibit also features contemporary expressions of spirituality, including a one-of-a-kind collection of artifacts from the famous Ice Maiden grave high in the Andes and Ex-votos pieces from Arandas, Mexico.



Custom casework features carefully controlled internal lighting and a rich, cohesive color scheme that focuses the visitor's attention on the artifacts.

Moché stirrup spout vessels were featured in the exhibit along with many other Pre-Columbian artifacts.



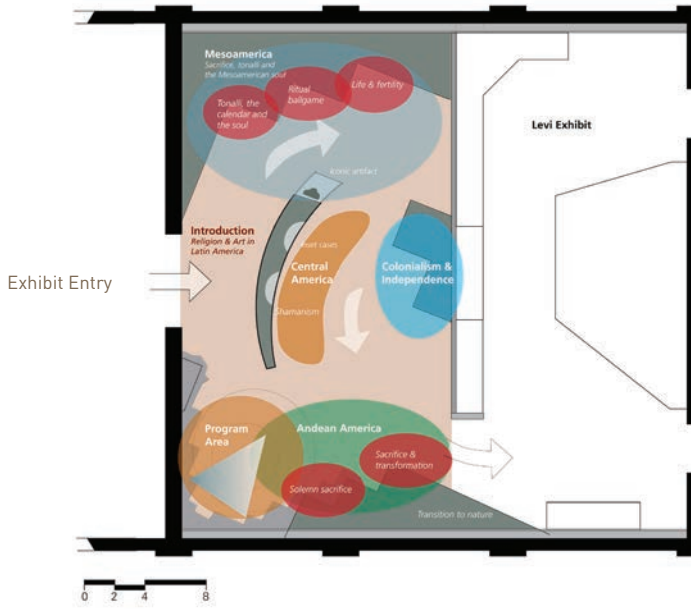
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The new exhibit took the place of an early 20th-century gallery with greenish light, tile floors and library style cases.



In addition to the ancient objects in the exhibit, several contemporary objects from Día de los Muertos celebrations were featured, showing a continuum of South American ritual art.



A curved introduction wall slowed the visitors pace and summed up the exhibit concept.