Peter Held served as a museum director and contemporary art curator for three decades, organizing more than two hundred exhibitions and selling and contributing work to two books. He has received three of the highest accolades in the field from the Friends of Contemporary Ceramics, the Smithsonian’s James Renwick Alliance, and the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. In 2014, he retired from his position as curator of ceramics at Arizona State University Art Museum’s Ceramics Research Center. Held currently owns an art appraisal and consulting business in Phoenix, Arizona.

Garth Clark is an acclaimed writer, critic, and commentator on modern and contemporary ceramic art. For twenty-seven years, he and his partner, Mark Del Vecchio, owned and operated Garth Clark Gallery in New York City and Los Angeles. Clark has written, edited, and contributed to over sixty books on ceramic art and authored over two hundred essays, reviews, and monographs. He was made a fellow of the Royal College of Art and won the 2005 Frank Jewett Mather Award for distinguished art journalism from the College Art Association. Clark lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he is the founding editor-in-chief of CFile Foundation’s online journal and publishing projects.

The San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts opened in 1985 in the historic 1868 Quartermaster Building at Fort Concho National Historic Landmark. The museum’s current building opened in 1999 and has received international acclaim for its distinctive architecture. Achieved through its collections, exhibitions, and programs, SAMFA’s mission is to serve the general public in San Angelo, the Concho Valley, and the state of Texas. SAMFA has been nationally recognized for its dedication to the community and received the National Medal for Museum and Library Service in 2005. SAMFA is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

The exhibition program encompasses all media, cultures, and time periods, with a major annual exhibit focused on the ceramic arts. The museum has a distinguished permanent collection of contemporary and historical ceramics from the United States and around the world. This publication presents the first meaningful overview of the current collection and signals the museum’s intention to extend its reach to other audiences and art institutions. SAMFA also holds significant collections of early and contemporary Texas art, and Spanish colonial and 17th century Latin American art.

President and CEO Howard Taylor has directed SAMFA since 1984.

Assistant Director and Collections Manager Laura Renner Hackley has been with the museum since 2013.