



Embassy of the United States of America

Public Affairs Section

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New Oruro museum to present 45 colonial-era paintings restored thanks to the U.S. Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation

Forty-five colonial paintings restored with funds provided by the United States Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation will be presented on Friday 17, at 11:00am at the inauguration of San Miguel de la Ranchería Museum, in the city of Oruro. The new museum is located in the premises of San Miguel de la Ranchería Temple, on the corner of Soria Galvarro and Primero de Noviembre Streets.

The cost for the restoration of those paintings is estimated at approximately \$US20,000.

The Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation is a program financed by the government of the United States. It was created in 2001 as a means to demonstrate and foster appreciation and respect for the cultural patrimony of foreign countries. The goal of this Fund in Bolivia is to protect important elements of the Bolivian cultural heritage, which otherwise could be lost forever.

Thanks to the Ambassador's Fund, the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia has been able to finance the following preservation projects since 2001:

- 2001 – Creation of a photo archive for the Quipus Foundation in La Paz
- 2002 – Construction of facilities for native music, dance, and rituals in ASUR Museum, Sucre
- 2003 – Archive for the Musical Scores of the Mission of San Ignacio de Moxos, Beni
- 2003 – Digital Cataloguing Equipment for the Vice Ministry of Culture, La Paz
- 2004 – Restoration 45 colonial canvases for the San Miguel de la Ranchería Museum, Oruro
- 2005 – Exhibit on the chestnut and rubber as part of the cultural patrimony of Pando

Thanks to the creation of this Fund, the U.S. Embassy has been able to compete and win bids for projects every year since 2001. The Embassy of the United States seeks to strengthen ties and foster an enhanced mutual understanding between the U.S. and Bolivian cultures. The Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation is a key component in this objective.

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