

Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising

Design and Merchandising
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Curator
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Goals

- To serve as a resource for teaching and research in the area of material culture
- To establish and promote museum standards of care and handling artifacts
- To disseminate and interpret the knowledge gained through exhibitions and educational programming

Exploring the Aesthetic, Social, Cultural and Physical Significance of Textiles, Dress and Interior Furnishings

The Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising, formerly the Historic Costume and Textiles Collection, is a resource dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, and service in fields of learning which address the inter-relationships among material artifacts, history and culture.

As a teaching and research facility the Museum offers the opportunity to explore the cultural significance of textiles, dress, and interior furnishings in their historical and contemporary settings.

As a museum, its function is to collect, document, preserve, and exhibit artifacts. Of particular importance are the artifacts that identify the development and historic context of the world, including Central Asia, India, China, and Japan.

The Museum enables scholars to conduct research related to topics such as textile conservation, patterns and design techniques of Japanese kimono, mid-19th century women's appearance, the cut and style of contemporary fashion design, and the changing historical functionality and design of chairs. Results of these studies are disseminated through exhibitions, journal articles, workshops, and seminars.

Faculty from various disciplines use and display Museum artifacts to enrich student instruction. Unlike many museums, students have the opportunity to examine artifacts under conditions that preserve the integrity of the objects. Faculty and students may assist with exhibits, lectures, and workshops that provide



additional teaching/learning opportunities.

The Avenir Museum contributes to CSU's service mission by providing traveling trunk shows, gallery exhibitions, staff consultations, public lecture programs, symposia, workshops, and community access to the Museum.

The Museum has recently moved into a new facility in the University Center for the Arts (old Fort Collins High School). The facility includes over 3,700 sq. feet of temperature/humidity controlled storage, plus a classroom, reading/ seminar room, conservation lab and gallery.