Highlights of the Americas Galleries
Art Adventure Guide Training
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Highlights of the Americas Galleries (G259, 260, and 261)
Colima, *Dog*, 100-300, ceramic, 99.57.3 (probably the Mexican hairless dog, Xoloitzcuintli (show-low-itz-QUEENT-ly). Diego Rivera with his dog, 1930s.)
In Colima, Nayarit, and Jalisco, archaeologists estimate more than 75 percent of burials ca. 300 BCE to 300 CE contain these vessels, which may have served as symbolic dog guides to help souls travel through the Underworld. Along with turkeys, xolos were one of the only domesticated animals eaten by ancient Mesoamericans.

The Olmec culture is viewed as a “mother culture” of Mesoamerica. (Overview of La Venta, Altar 4 at La Venta)
Mayan civilization dates back more than 4000 years. The first Maya cities developed around 750 BCE, and by 500 BCE these cities possessed monumental architecture. Today, more than 7 million Maya live in their original homelands of Mesoamerica and in countries all over the world. https://maya.nmai.si.edu/maya
Maya, *Vase with monkeys, 450-700, ceramic, 2000.195*
The written language of the Maya was made up of about 800 glyphs, or symbols.
Mesoamerican Ballgame: “Originating around 1500 B.C. among the Olmec, the Mesoamerican ballgame was the first team sport in human history.”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljOYxBrUOuw
Veracruz, El Tajín, *Rattle in the form of a ballplayer*, 600-750, ceramic, 47.2.9
Veracruz, El Tajín, *Ballgame yoke*, 600-900 CE, stone, 41.72
Aztec (Mexica), *Chalchiuhtlicue*, c. 1200-1521 (Reconstruction of Templo Mayor in Tenochtitlán)
South America (Andean cultures)
Paracas, *Double spout Vessel* (Jaguar and bird), c. 900-200 BCE and Paracas textile (mantle)
The Moche were organized in politically independent groups who shared a common ideology, mythical and religious beliefs and practices, as well as a common iconography for their artwork.

Moche, Vessel (Owl), c. 200 BCE - 600 CE

Owls played a significant role in Moche religion...they carry defeated warriors to the world of the dead, and may personify shamans or healers, whose power of curing illness is strengthened by the owl’s vision. (metmuseum.org)
Allan Houser, Young Woman, 1992, bronze, 2017.95.1
Allan Houser (Haozous) 1914-1994
George Morrison, Collage IX: Landscape, 1974, wood, 75.94
George Morrison, Wah Wah Teh Go Nay Ga Bo
(Standing in the Northern Lights) 1919 - 2000
George Morrison, Mount Maude, c. 1942, Oil on canvas, 42.20
George Morrison, Untitled, 1950, tempera on paper, 99.79.4
George Morrison, Untitled, 1960, oil and acrylic on linen, 75.75
Headdress, late 19th-early 20th century
Tsistsistas (Cheyenne) or Lakȟóta
Bald eagle and other feathers, wool, buffalo hide, cowhide, horsehair, beads, pigments

Gift of Jack Garcia, Lakota, 2015.6
Long Wolf, Lakhóta
Blessing ceremony with Mr. Jim Thunder Hawk, Mia curator Jill Ahlberg Yohe, and the Jack Garcia and Mary Jennings families. 17 July 2015.