



FACT SHEET

HISTORY: Founded by Ross Ward in 1983 as a means to demonstrate what became 30 years of work carving, painting and collecting western memorabilia. The Museum has been continuously operated for 21 years by Carla and Ross Ward. Ross Ward died of complications from Alzheimer's on November 13, 2002. The Ward family continues to own and operate Tinkertown Museum as a private for-profit company and has hosted over 250,000 visitors.

OWNER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Carla J. Ward, tinker4u@tinkertown.com

LOCATION: Sandia Park, New Mexico. Tinkertown is located on the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway (www.turquoisetrail.org) on the way to Sandia Crest. Take I-40 20 minutes east of Albuquerque to exit 175. Head north on NM 14 six miles to NM 536, then left 1.5 miles.

MUSEUM COLLECTION: 1880's hand-carved animated miniature Western Town containing 26 buildings and 300 people. Three-ring hand carved, animated miniature circus, menagerie, sideshow and circus wagons. Old west memorabilia. Antique, 40 foot wooden sail boat that was sailed around the world. Old-fashioned arcade machines including an original 1940's Grandma Fortune Teller, penny smasher, and metal typer. Various collections of unusual items such as: 132 wedding cake toppers, 45 bullet pencils, 75 unusual dolls and dozens or antique toys and tools.

GIFT SHOP: Tinkertown's Gift Shop has everything for the traveling public and special gifts for all occasions. Rocks, books, T-shirts, toys, dolls, mood rings, miniatures, alien babies and grab bags are just a few of the myriad of different items for sale.

GROUNDS: Buildings made up of 55,000 glass bottles, metal sculptures and cutouts of fanciful figures. Old horse drawn wagons and buggies, old west saddle shop, mining tools, interesting signs and memorabilia as well as horses, hummingbirds, and Radar the dancing dog.

HOURS OF OPERATION: The Museum is open daily from 9:00am-6:00pm March 15 to October 31.

ADMISSION: Adults is \$3.00, Seniors \$2.50, Children 4 - 16 \$1.00, and children under 4 are free. Discounted admission is given to AAA members.

GROUP TOURS: Group tours of the Museum are available by advance reservation for school groups, community groups, tour groups and special parties. Call (505) 281-5233 at least two week in advance of the desired tour date for a reservation.

CONTACT: Tinkertown Museum, PO Box 303, Sandia Park, NM 87047; (505) 281-5233.

WEB SITE: www.tinkertown.com www.festivaloftinkering.com

March 1, 2004

