Mission

The COB Collection is a scholarly resource dedicated to the preservation, documentation, and interpretation of apparel and textile material culture. Through our mission, the Collection provides education and inspiration for students, researchers, and the general public. The COB Collection contributes to the outreach missions of the COB Design Programs by providing opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to learn about, analyze, and interpret the historic and cultural context of textiles and apparel. Faculty, staff, and the broader university and community audiences are encouraged to use the collection for inspiration, education, and creative scholarship.

For more information on how the collection can serve your interests contact Dawn Figueroa at dawn.figueroa@oregonstate.edu.
Overview of the COB Collection

The COB Historic and Cultural Textile and Apparel Collection is housed in Milam Hall in the College of Business at OSU. The Collection started when professors began bringing in artifacts of their own to use in class instruction and display. Their contributions created the foundation for the Collection in the early 1930s. However, it really began to take shape as a formal Collection in the late 1940s when students and scholars took notice of its value and put their efforts into cataloging and preservation.

A strong focus of the collection is design elements and textural fabric varieties. The Collection consists of Euro-American and non-Western apparel and textiles. The collection textiles include fabric samples, tapestry fragments, and accessories from many cultures. The Euro-American clothing collection begins at the start of the 19th century and continues to the late 20th century. Additionally, there are some artifacts from the 15th, 17th, and 18th century, and some pre-Columbian pieces.

How can I support the COB Collection?

As a non-profit entity we totally rely on the generosity of our donors for daily operations, exhibitions, and acquisitions. Your contribution, in any amount, will provide meaningful support to our mission and ensure the vital care and preservation of the Collection. If you share an interest in the enrichment and study of textiles and apparel material culture give today.

Yes, I want to donate:

Make checks payable to: OSU Foundation
850 SW 35th Street, Corvallis, OR 97333-4015

Write, “COB Collection” in the memo line. Or visit the OSU Foundation website.