

MAYA RESEARCH PROGRAM' S 23RD ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SEASON IN BELIZE

July 11, 2014 Maya Research Program Conservation, Day of Archaeology, Day of Archaeology 2014, Education, Excavation, Finds, Landscape Archaeology, Osteology, Public Archaeology, Science, Survey 3D modeling, Anthropology, Archaeology, Belize, Bioarchaeology, Blue Creek, Ceramics, Culture, Field School, Maya, maya archaeology, Maya civilization, Maya Research Program, Mesoamerica, northwestern Belize, osteology, RPA, Science, Students, University of Texas, Volunteers



WHAT IS THE MAYA RESEARCH PROGRAM?

The [Maya Research Program](#) is a U.S.-based non-profit organization (501C3) that sponsors archaeological and ethnographic research in Middle America. Each summer since 1992, we have sponsored archaeological fieldwork in northwestern Belize and ethnographic research in the village of Yaxunah, Mexico. The Maya Research Program is affiliated with the University of Texas at Tyler.

Our goal is, first and foremost, to conduct research that helps us better understand the complex ancient societies of the Americas. MRP is proud to have a diverse staff of talented scientists contributing to this goal and many of our affiliated scholars are recognized as leaders in their fields. Recent support has come from the [Archaeological Institute of America](#), National Geographic Society, the National Science Foundation, the Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies, the Heinz Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies. In addition, the Blue Creek field school has been certified by the Register of Professional Archaeologists and the project was recognized as the winner of the [Archaeological Institute of America's Excavation Outreach contest](#).

Another key MRP goal is to encourage the participation of students and volunteers — anyone who wants to experience the real world of archaeological or anthropological research and understand how we learn about cultures may join us. We see this as a critical educational component of MRP's work and it helps us accomplish our research goals as well. The ages of our participants range from 18 to over 80. So many of our participants return year after year that MRP has become an extended family. About

half of our participants are university students under 30 years old and the other half are professionals and retirees. While the majority of participants come from the United States and Canada, we have students from Australian, European, Latin American, and Japanese institutions as well. For students, academic credit can usually be arranged either via UTT or the student's home institution. Many of our students go on to become successful graduate students in archaeology or a related field and return to focus on MRP projects for their theses and dissertations.

In 2014 and 2015 we again offer opportunities to participate in our field program and learn about the Maya of the past and today. The Blue Creek Archaeological Project is open to student and non-student participants, regardless of experience. The field school has been certified by the Register of Professional Archaeologists and participants will receive training in archaeological field and laboratory techniques. Academic credit and scholarships are available. We invite students and volunteers to participate in the Maya Research Program's archaeological field season in northwestern Belize.

2014 Season Dates:

Session 1: Monday May 26 to Sunday June 8

Session 2: Monday June 9 to Sunday June 22

Session 3: Monday June 30 to Sunday July 13

Session 4: Monday July 14 to Sunday July 27

2015 Season Dates:

Session 1: Monday June 1st to Sunday June 14th

Session 2: Monday June 15th to Sunday June 28th

Session 3: Monday July 6th to Sunday July 19th

Session 4: Monday July 20th to Sunday August 2nd

If you are interested in joining the team this summer or next – please get in touch soon as space is limited! If you have any questions – please don't hesitate to contact us:

Maya Research Program

Website: <http://www.mayaresearchprogram.org>

1910 East Southeast Loop 323

#296; Tyler, Texas 75701

Phone: 817-831-9011

Email: mrpinquiries@gmail.com

MRP'S 23RD ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SEASON IN BELIZE

The Maya Research Program is having a very successful 23rd archaeological field season in northwestern Belize! This summer we are concentrating on the site of Xnoha. Xnoha is a medium sized Maya center located on the edge of the Alacranes Bajo. We are delineating the architecture of the site core, three of its elite residences, and a possible shrine structure. In addition, we have recorded and conserved the mural recovered from Tulix Mul, secured numerous soil samples from wetland features, and finalized excavations at "Alvin's Cave" and "Rice Mill Cave 3." Our bioarchaeology field school is active this session and we are looking forward to our 3D modeling and photogrammetry workshop next

week. If you are interested in seeing weekly updates from the field – you can follow our progress on our [Facebook page](#) or via the photo gallery on our [website](#).











