

# Celebrate 2017 – Interpretation Guide

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## **Arizona's Five Cs: COPPER**

- **Designer:** Staff
- **Sponsor:** Tree Sponsored by AZ Rock Production  
Foyer Sponsored by AZ Mining Association
- **Location:** Turret area of Foyer
- **Lighting:** Step on the green button on the floor beneath the window
- **Interpretation:**

Copper has been important to the Arizona economy and lifestyle for many decades. Early Native Americans in the Verde area near Jerome used copper minerals as pigments for painting their skin and ornaments and for making tools. Early Spanish explorers, intent on finding silver and gold, instead, discovered active copper mining as early as 1500. The first European copper mine was established near Ajo in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Although silver and gold were the most sought-after minerals, copper quickly replaced them in both quantity and value. Copper is incredible versatile and is essential for plumbing, conductivity and connectivity. Today, you will find copper in your smart phone, your bathroom, in aircraft, surgical instruments and solar energy systems. There is even about 50 pounds of copper in your car!

Most of that copper comes from Arizona. Today, the state produces about 60% of the copper needed in the United States, more than all the other 49 states combined! Copper is Arizona's most valuable mining commodity.

## **O Tannen-Barbie**

- **Designer:** Claudine Villardito
- **Sponsor:** Black Cat Vintage
- **Location:** Front Parlor
- **Lighting:** Plug the tree cord into the extension cord
- **Interpretation:**

How does a vintage fashion collector dress a Christmas tree? With teeny-tiny vintage clothing, of course. And thanks to my mother's fondness for saving, I just happened to have three suitcases' worth.

Invented by Ruth Handler in 1959, Barbie was the first American doll to resemble a young woman instead of an infant or toddler. This important difference resonated with

children eager to grow up, and the results were profound: by the end of its first year of production, 1 of every 65 girls under the age of eleven owned one.

Naturally Barbie needed clothes, and in an era when women were encouraged to have the perfect outfit for every occasion, Barbie more than held her own: by 1972 she had enough outfits to last a year without duplications. Moreover, Barbie's early clothes were based on haute couture designs by Christian Dior and Yves Saint Laurent and featured painstaking details like working zippers, silk-lined jackets, real pockets and even seam allowances.

Barbie was—and remains—a cultural mirror of her time (she now has an Instagram account with over 700,000 followers). As such, her wardrobe is a chronicle of the history of fashion in miniature and exemplifies a near-flawless facsimile of the clothing I have spent a lifetime collecting, restoring and selling.

This tree is the embodiment of all my childhood holidays, a celebration of my career, and the best thing I can imagine waking up to on Christmas morning. Thank you for sharing it with me!

Claudine Villardito, Owner  
Black Cat Vintage  
blackcatvintage.com



**BLACK CAT VINTAGE**

**HANUKKAH CELEBRATION!**

- **Designer:** Cathy Wilson and Robin Pinkus
- **Sponsor:** Cathy Wilson and Robin Pinkus
- **Location:** Dining Room
- **Lighting:** none
- **Interpretation:**
- Hanukkah decor, a table for feasting, and shimmering glitter! How befitting the celebration of the “Festival of Lights”. I am not Jewish; however, I’ve studied Hanukkah from the Hebrew Scriptures and have celebrated the holiday for decades with Jewish and Gentile friends. I can envision the Goldbergs gathering around this table and retelling the powerful message of victory amidst the enemy. And, I hear them singing *Maoz Tsur* which carries the message of God’s mighty deliverance. Happy Hanukkah!

### **CHRISTMAS – STEAMPUNK STYLE!**

- **Designer:** Amy Randall
- **Sponsor:** Amy Randall
- **Location:** Sewing Area
- **Lighting:** plug the light and the tree cords into the extension cord under the sewing machine
- **Interpretation:**  
Steampunk is a popular subgenre of science fiction and fantasy that incorporates designs and technology of the Victorian period, and particularly, of the industrial revolution. Even though the alternative history of steam-powered advancements and their influence on fashion are fictional, Steampunk embraces the positive aspects of the Victorian Era's culture and philosophy.

### **Arizona's Five Cs: COTTON**

- **Designer:** Staff
- **Sponsor:** None
- **Location:** Master Bedroom
- **Lighting:** Plug the cord into the extension from the closet area
- **Interpretation:**  
Cotton is a versatile, renewable resource that provides many of the things we use in our daily lives: clothing, sheets, towels, canvas, cooking oil and more. But, did you know that Arizona is the birthplace of Pima Cotton? Named for the Native American farmers who grew the experimental crop for the USDA, it was so successful that our state enjoyed a cotton boom during WWI.  
At one point, cotton was our state's largest resource. It was a major economic driver for Arizona's growth, ensuring its place as one of the Five C's. Cotton still contributes to Arizona's economic life. In 2011, the state's 900 cotton farms injected approximately \$362 million into the state economy.

### **The Magic of World of Children's Books**

- **Designer:** Staff
- **Sponsor:** None
- **Location:** Nursery
- **Lighting:** Push small button on battery pack
- **Interpretation:**

*“Come with me where dreams are born and time is never planned”*

- Peter Pan, 1904

Books, like mythical doors, open to exciting new worlds. Literature especially for children existed by the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Before Mother Goose, or Gulliver’s Travels books written especially for kids often dealt with good moral upbringing and behavior. One of the early books for children was titled “A Token for Children: Being an Exact Amount of the Conversion, Holy and Exemplary Lives, and Joyful Deaths of Several Young Children.” Whew! That certainly seems rather heavy by comparison to today’s bestseller, “Walter, the Farting Dog!”

Some favorites at the turn of the century that still resonate today included:

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland, 1865

The Owl and the Pussycat, 1871

A Child’s Garden of Verse, 1885

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, 1900

The Call of the Wild, 1903

- **TEA TREE**
- **Designer:** Heather Roberts
- **Sponsor:** Heather Roberts
- **Location:** Girls’ Room
- **Lighting:** 2 battery powered lights to turn on/off, sitting behind the tree. See Heather for replacement batteries
- **Interpretation:**  
Inspired by going to tea with my mom around the holidays, our Christmas teas here at Heritage Square (available through December), and by our next Rosson House exhibit, Plate Expectations: Victorian Dining, Decorum, and Dishes (on display February – October 2018). The beautiful teacups are on loan from the personal collections of Jennifer Hance, Barbara Brillhart-Bayer, and Michelle Reid.
  
- **Arizona’s Five Cs: CLIMATE**
- **Designer: Sherri Starkey**
- **Sponsor: The Starkey Family, in memory of CMSgt JW Starkey, USAF**
- **Interpretation:**  
Arizona’s climate is not a product in the way copper, cattle, cotton, or citrus are, but it has been, and continues to be, a major boon to the state’s economy. For the purposes of this exhibit, the designer has equated climate with tourism. She has chosen a saguaro as her holiday ‘tree’ because visitors so often remember their first sighting as a high point of their trip.

The gentle, sunshine filled winters of Arizona's deserts provide outdoor adventures and an escape from colder climes. Even Arizona's mountains offer milder winter climates than others, and also offer many winter adventures. Can you find your favorite fair weather outdoor activities represented on our Christmas Saguaro?

- **Arizona's Five Cs: CATTLE**

- **Designer:** Staff
- **Sponsor:** Focus Financial
- **Location:** Back (Family) Parlor
- **Lighting:** Plug the tree cord into the extension cord at the back of the tree
- **Interpretation:**

Cattle ranching in Arizona dates to 1690 when cows were first introduced by Spanish settlers. Ranching operations were limited until after the American Civil War when technological innovations that enabled infrastructure married with demand from territorial forts to pave the way for large beef operations. Wide-scale ranching was well-established by 1890, with over 1.5 million head of cattle grazing the region. Even though Cattle stocks declined by 75% after the turn of the century, cows still outnumbered people in the state until 1950!

- **Arizona's Five Cs: CITRUS**

- **Designer:** Chakeia Johnson
- **Sponsor:** Keia J Designs
- **Location:** Kitchen
- **Lighting:**
- **Interpretation:**

Agriculture has thrived in Arizona for over a thousand years. The Hohokam people's intricate canal system showed the way to new arrivals in the 1860s. The reconstruction of the ancient canals led to modern agriculture as a major economic engine for Arizona, and citrus was a big part of it.

By the mid 1890s over 1500 acres grew citrus; at the peak of production in 1970, Arizona had 80,000 acres of citrus groves. Grapefruit, lemons, oranges, and limes were found in orchards all over the valley. The scent of citrus blossoms in the early spring permeated the air. An eventual increase in urban development led to a steady decrease, until today only about 20,000 acres are dedicated to citrus production.

Despite the decline in production, that heady scent of orange blossoms still fills the springtime air in parts of the valley, and citrus is still an important contributor to Arizona's economic life.