

POLICY ON THE USE OF THE MUSEUM BY OUTSIDE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

Introduction

It is one of the chief advantages of the McKean's great gift that the Morse has the option to preserve the emphasis of the Museum on art and education and to avoid the treacherous balancing act other museums must perform as they try to preserve their identity as museums of art and simultaneously pursue donors and commercial activity.

Unfortunately, since so few institutions can afford to restrict social and business uses of their galleries and their names, some business and community leaders have sometimes come to feel that a museum's unwillingness to provide their institutions as a backdrop for their social and business interests constitutes a failure to "cooperate." At the same time, the price of "cooperation" can be higher than the price of changing policies and traditions or of appearing inconsistent in the awarding of "favors."

Policy Recommendation

The Museum will continue its long-standing unwritten policy against the use of the Museum or its facilities by outside individuals or groups and against the extension of hours to accommodate special outside groups.

However, waiver of this policy may be made from time to time by the Executive Committee if the exception is in the best interest of the Museum.

Any use of the Museum by the Associates not initiated by Museum staff requires specific approval of the Director in advance.

Approved by the Board of Trustees
1 November, 1996
revised 8 May, 2000