MUSEUM GUIDELINES

In order to preserve and protect the works of art in the museum and to ensure that everyone who comes to the museum has an enjoyable experience, we ask that you observe the following guidelines:

- Please do not bring coats, umbrellas, bags, or backpacks into the museum. These items may be hung on the coat rack in the museum lobby or left at the front desk.
- The use of cellular phones is not permitted in the museum’s galleries.
- Please do not bring food or beverages of any kind into the museum. Drinking water is allowed, but no other beverages are permitted.
- The use of photography is not permitted in special exhibitions.
- Chewing gum also is not allowed.
- Please do not bring coats, umbrellas, bags, or backpacks into the museum.
- Please do not touch the works of art. As a courtesy to other patrons, please keep the noise level to a minimum.
- No photography of any kind is permitted in special exhibitions.
- If you would like to take pictures, please keep the noise level to a minimum. Please do not touch the works of art. As a courtesy to other patrons, please keep the noise level to a minimum.
- If you would like to write or sketch in the museum, please use pencils.
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MUSEUM HOURS

- The museum is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm.
- Sunday: 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

ACCESS

The museum is fully wheelchair accessible, with an elevator located near the entrance. A wheelchair is available upon request.

MUSEUM SHOP

A selection of publications, catalogues, books, posters, and postcards relating to the museum’s exhibitions and collections is available at the front desk.

Admission is free and open to the public.

VISITOR GUIDE

The museum serves both as a teaching resource for Colby College and as an active cultural institution for the residents of Maine and visitors to the state. In the early 1950s, Adeline and Caroline Wing gave important paintings by William Merritt Chase, Winslow Homer, and others. In 1956 Elliotton M. Edith Jetté, benefactors of the College, donated their American Heritage Collection, consisting of 76 works by American folk artists. The next year the Helen Warren and Willard How Cummings Collection of American paintings and watercolors was given.

In 1957 the Jetté Galleries were added to the Bixler Art and Music Center. That same year Norma B. Marin and John Marin Jr. gave 25 works of art by John Marin. Through the Marins’ continued generosity, the John Marin Collection at the Colby College Museum of Art has become the largest collection of Marin’s work in any academic museum in the world. Though the majority of the museum’s works are American, excellent examples of European prints, drawings, and paintings, and special collections such as the Bernat Collection, consisting of Asian ceramics, are integral to the museum’s holdings. The collection’s growth is assured in part by the bequest of Jere Bixler, the first associate director of the Museum of Modern Art, who established a significant acquisitions endowment, enabling the purchase of major works by artists such as Robert Henri, Paul Manship, Robert Rauschenberg, Agnes Martin, Kara Walker, and Hiroshi Sugimoto.

In 1992 the museum received a gift of 414 works by Alex Katz from the artist, and subsequently a wing comprising roughly 8,000 square feet was constructed to house this collection. The Paul J. Schupf Wing for the Works of Alex Katz, which opened in 1995, was made possible through the generosity of Colby benefactor Paul J. Schupf, who contributed the naming gift for the building. Through rotating exhibitions, the museum showcases a diverse collection of the artist’s work across media, and it is one of only a handful of museum wings dedicated to the work of a living artist. The museum now holds nearly 700 works by Alex Katz.

With a lead gift from Peter and Paula Lunder, important benefactors of the College, a new wing opened in 1999 for the exhibition of the museum’s renowned collection of American art. The Lunder Wing was designed by architect Frederick Fisher, one of the world’s leading designers of museum spaces, and it comprises 13 galleries and 9,000 square feet of additional exhibition space.

In recent years, acquisitions of site-specific sculptures by Richard Serra and Sol LeWitt have brought greater magnitude to the museum’s physical spaces. In 2004, through a partial gift of the artist and Universal Limited Art Editions (ULAE), the museum became the sole repository of the complete print oeuvre of Terry Winters. In 2006 Paul J. Schupf promised the museum his collection of more than 150 prints and drawings by Richard Serra, making Colby one of the largest repositories of works on paper by this renowned artist. Recent gifts from the Alex Katz Foundation also have had great impact on the contemporary collection, and include important works by Abadi Guttinick, Rudy Burschardt, Chuck Close, Jennifer Bartlett, Elizabeth Murray, and others.

In 2007 Peter and Paula Lunder promised their collection of more than 500 works of art to the museum. This gift constitutes one of the most important art collections ever donated to a liberal arts college. Significant works of 19th- and 20th-century American art, including more than 200 prints by James McNeill Whistler, make up this extraordinary gift.

Furnished with a wing comprising roughly 8,000 square feet, the Colby College Museum of Art has built a significant permanent collection that specializes in American and contemporary art.

The museum now holds nearly 700 works by Alex Katz.

Please visit the museum’s Web site at www.colby.edu/museum for an up-to-date list of exhibitions and events, information regarding group tours and educational programming, and membership in the Friends of Art.

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Please Note: Selected works from the permanent collection are exhibited on a rotating basis; works illustrated may not be on view at all times.