

# Gibbes

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## GIBBES MUSEUM OF ART

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**The Gibbes Museum of Art**  
**135 Meeting Street**  
**Charleston, SC 29403**  
**Telephone: 843.722.2706**

#### Visitor Information:

- Where is the museum located?
  - The Gibbes Museum of Art is located in Charleston's Historic District at 135 Meeting Street (2 blocks south of the Market between Cumberland and Queen Streets). [See a map.](#)
- What are the museum's hours?
  - The Gibbes Museum is open 10am to 5pm Tuesday through Saturday and 1pm to 5pm on Sunday. We are closed Mondays and the following national holidays: New Years Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Easter Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.
- Is there parking available?
  - Although parking is not available at the Gibbes Museum, there is on-street parking throughout downtown as well as two parking garages in close proximity. There is a parking deck on Cumberland Street and another on Queen Street. Both garages are about a block from the museum.
- How much is admission?
  - Admission to the Gibbes Museum is:
    - \$9 for Adults
    - \$7 for Seniors, Students, and Military
    - \$5 for Children ages 6 – 12
    - Admission is free for members and children under 6.
- How does the North American Reciprocal Museum Program (NARM) work? Who are the participating organizations?
  - Members of any of the [NARM institutions](#) who present a membership card validated with a gold North American Reciprocal sticker (that is, a membership above the \$100 level) are entitled to the following privileges at the Gibbes Museum: free/member admission during regular museum hours and member discount at the Gibbes Museum Store.
- Do you have an audio guide tour?
  - A complimentary cell phone audio tour is available with paid admission. Use your own cell phone to access in-depth information about the museum collection and specific objects on view.
- Do you offer public tours?
  - Yes, every Friday at 2:30pm we offer a docent-led tour that is free with admission. See Tour and Group Information below for details on other tours offered.

- Is the Gibbes wheelchair accessible?
  - The Gibbes Museum of Art is wheelchair accessible and wheelchairs are available.
- Do you have any free admission days?
  - Yes, we have free days quarterly throughout the year sponsored by the Junior League of Charleston. [See the Museum Calendar for more information.](#)

#### **Tour and Group Information:**

- Do you have group rates?
  - Yes, we offer special rates for groups of 10 or more. [Visit our Group Tours page for more information.](#)
- How do I book a tour for my group?
  - By calling or emailing Rebecca Sailor, Associate Curator of Education, at [rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x41. Please have two dates in mind.
- How far in advance do I need to book a tour?
  - We appreciate at least two weeks lead time.
- Do you have parking for tour groups?
  - With permission, our loading zone can be used for buses and vans.

#### **Education and Outreach:**

- Do you have activities for preschoolers?
  - Yes, we have a preschool guided tour for ages 3 - 5. We also offer Toddler Tuesdays: Story Time and Activities for ages 18 months - 5 years (with an adult) every Tuesday in conjunction with the Charleston Library Society as well several Junior League of Charleston Community Days throughout the year. These days include hands-on activities for families, museum tours and special performances for all ages. [Visit the Calendar for information about upcoming events for children and families](#) or contact Rebecca Sailor, Associate Curator of Education, at [rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x41 for more information.
- Do you offer tours for school and community groups?
  - Yes, the museum offers specialized tours and workshops for preschool – 12 grade students attending schools, camps, and community-based organizations in the Charleston Tri-County area. [See our preschool – 12 grade tour offerings.](#)
- Do you offer special resources and programs for teachers?
  - Yes, [visit our Just for Educators pages to learn more about the offerings available.](#)
- Where do I find information on the classes you offer?
  - We list our upcoming class schedule for students and adults on the Calendar. You may also contact Rebecca Sailor, Associate Curator of Education, at [rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x41.
- How do I register my child for a class?
  - By calling or emailing Rebecca Sailor, Associate Curator of Education, at [rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:rsailor@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x41.
- Do you have Summer Camp?
  - Yes, we do offer six weeks of summer camp for ages 4-12. [Download our Summer Camp registration form \(PDF\).](#)
- For more information on Education and Outreach, [please visit the “Learn” section of our website.](#)

#### **Membership and Support:**

- How do I become a member of the Gibbes Museum of Art?
  - [Please visit our Support page to learn about different levels and benefits of membership available at the Gibbes Museum.](#)
- How can I volunteer at the Gibbes?

- Our many auxiliary groups provide time, talent, and financial support to the museum. [Please visit our Support page to learn how to get involved.](#)
- Email [volunteer@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:volunteer@gibbesmuseum.org) for other inquiries.
- Are there internships available?
  - Yes! Please see our [College Internship Application](#) to learn more.
- How can I donate to the Gibbes Museum?
  - Your gift to the Gibbes Annual Fund, above and beyond annual membership dues, is essential to cultivating a broader audience and advancing a creative spirit in our community. [Please visit our "Give to the Gibbes" page to contribute to the Gibbes Annual Fund.](#)
  - Planned Giving is another way to support the Museum. You need not be wealthy to leave a legacy to the Gibbes through estate or financial planning. Planned giving can be as simple as making a bequest in your will or naming the museum as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan. There may also be substantial tax benefits to you as a result of your gift. Information about planned giving is available by contacting Angela D. Mack, Executive Director, at [admack@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:admack@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706, ext. 31.
- Is there opportunity for corporate support or sponsorship of the Gibbes Museum?
  - Yes! Support from the corporate community enables the Gibbes to present dynamic traveling exhibitions and host unique special events. Membership and sponsorship opportunities offer a variety of marketing benefits that positively position your business in front of the museum's members and visitors. Please contact Marla Loftus, Director of Museum Relations, at 843.722.2706 x38 or [mloftus@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:mloftus@gibbesmuseum.org) for more information.
- [For more information on Membership and Support, please visit the "Support" section of our website.](#)

#### **Museum History:**

- How can I learn about the history of the Gibbes?
  - [Visit our museum timeline to learn about the history of the Gibbes Museum of Art.](#)
- Was this always a museum?
  - In 1903, Charles H. Simonton and the Mayor of Charleston, J. Adger Smyth, were appointed as trustees in the will of James Shoolbred Gibbes, Sr. They purchased a lot at 135 Meeting Street and began to construct the art museum you see today according to Gibbes' bequest. [Visit our museum timeline to learn more about the history of the Gibbes Museum.](#)
- Is that a real Tiffany dome?
  - Research on the workshop that created the dome is still being done. We do not credit Tiffany or any other particular craftsman at this time.
- Why can't I take photos if I'm not using a flash?
  - There are other issues besides light damage for the art pieces, one being copyright.

#### **Private Events at the Gibbes:**

- Can I host an event at the Gibbes?
  - Yes! [Download a PDF about the Gibbes Museum's rental facilities.](#) Please contact Meredith Siemens, our Rental Events Coordinator, at [sales@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:sales@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x25, for further information.

#### **Museum Collection and Valuations:**

- How can the public gain access to works in the collection not currently on view?
  - The viewing of the collection is restricted, and appointments should be made well in advance. As a rule, 7 to 10 days would be appropriate. All requests to view

works not on view should be directed to Zinnia Willits, Director of Collections Administration, at [zwillits@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:zwillits@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x32.

- Are images of the Gibbes Museum's collection available for publication?
  - Please contact Joyce Baker, Curatorial Assistant/Rights and Reproductions, at [jbaker@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:jbaker@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x37, for more information on use of images of the Museum's collection.
- Does the Museum appraise or authenticate works of art?
  - No. The museum does not evaluate or authenticate works of art. You should consult a reputable art dealer, appraiser or auction house.
  - The following published reference works may also be helpful in finding out the value of an artwork in your own collection: *Annual Art Sales Index*, *Gordon's Print Price Annual*, *Leonard's Annual Price Index of Art Auctions*, and *Mayer's International Auction Records* as well as the Smithsonian American Art Museum website <http://americanart.si.edu/research/tools/art/>.

**Frequently asked by the media:**

- Do you have images from your current or upcoming exhibitions available?
  - Yes! We always have high resolution images of objects in our special and ongoing exhibitions available to members of the media who are interested in covering our programs. [Please visit our online database to tour a selection of works from our Collection and exhibitions archives.](#) (Note that we do not have high resolution photography on every object.)
  - For press images related to [current](#) or [upcoming](#) exhibitions, contact Marla Loftus, Director of Museum Relations, at [mloftus@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:mloftus@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x38.

**Frequently asked by advertising sales reps:**

- Is the Gibbes interested in advertising with us?
  - As a nonprofit with a small marketing budget, we look for opportunities to promote the museum through earned media instead of paid media. To that end, we emphasize public relations over paid advertising. For more information on advertising, contact Marla Loftus, Director of Museum Relations, at [mloftus@gibbesmuseum.org](mailto:mloftus@gibbesmuseum.org) or 843.722.2706 x38.