

# Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program



**INTERNATIONAL**

*Since 1975*

**DOMESTIC**

*New*

*“Because of the international indemnity program, Americans in the remotest regions of the nation—those without regular access to cultural arts agencies, as well as those in the most urban areas, where such offerings are more numerous—are able to experience, to study, and to enjoy the world’s masterpieces and, thus, to improve their lives.”*

**William U. Eiland, Director**

**Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA**

*“For nearly 30 years, the Phillips Collection has benefitted from the generous support of the indemnity program in alleviating the financial burden of insurance and thus paving the way for exhibitions featuring outstanding works by Renoir, Cézanne, Braque, Bonnard, and Picasso, to name a few, to be seen—sometimes for the first time—in the United States.”*

**Dorothy M. Kosinski, Director**

**The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC**

The National Gallery of Art and the Milwaukee Art Museum partnered to present an indemnified touring exhibit of 50 paintings by Dutch master Jan Lievens, including *Fighting Cardplayers* and *Death*, ca. 1638.

*Image courtesy of the National Gallery of Art and Milwaukee Art Museum, from a private collection in the Netherlands.*





Paul Revere's silver teapot, ca. 1795, was included in the indemnified exhibition *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness: American Art from the Yale University Art Gallery* that travels to the Seattle Art Museum in Washington and the Birmingham Museum of Art in Alabama in 2009.

*Photo courtesy of Yale University Art Gallery, Mabel Brady Garvan Collection.*

**Cover image:** *American Gothic*, 1930, by Grant Wood was one of the paintings indemnified through the new domestic component of the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program, on view in Iowa's Des Moines Art Center's exhibition *After Many Springs: Regionalism, Modernism, and the Midwest*.

*Image courtesy of the Art Institute of Chicago, Friends of American Art Collection. All rights reserved by the Estate of Nan Wood Graham/Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY.*

*“As a result of the new domestic indemnity program, American museums will now be able to insure temporary domestic exhibitions that might otherwise have been prohibitively expensive. More importantly, this new law will help ensure that all members of the public, regardless of where they live, will continue to have access to our nation’s great works of art.”*

**John E. Buchanan, Jr., Chief Executive Officer**  
Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums, San Francisco, CA



Many exhibitions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York have been supported through the indemnity program, including *Byzantium: Faith and Power (1261-1557)* in 2004.  
*Photo courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.*

## The Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities

Both the international program and the domestic program are administered by the National Endowment for the Arts on behalf of the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. The members of the Council are:

*Chairman*, National Endowment for the Arts

*Chairman*, National Endowment for the Humanities

*Secretary*, Department of Education

*Secretary*, Smithsonian Institution\*

*Director*, National Science Foundation

*Librarian* of Congress

*Director*, National Gallery of Art\*

*Chairman*, Commission of Fine Arts

*Archivist* of the United States

*Commissioner*, Public Buildings Service

*Secretary*, Department of State

*Secretary*, Department of the Interior

*Secretary* of the Senate\*

*Member*, House of Representatives\*

*Secretary*, Department of Commerce

*Secretary*, Department of Transportation

*Chairman*, National Museum and Library Services Board

*Director*, Institute of Museum and Library Services

*Secretary*, Department of Housing and Urban Development

*Administrator*, General Services Administration

*Secretary*, Department of Labor

*Secretary*, Department of Veterans Affairs

*Assistant Secretary*, Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging

\*Members who do not vote on indemnity

# Background

The Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program was created by Congress in 1975 to minimize the costs of insuring international exhibitions. The program is administered by the National Endowment for the Arts, on behalf of the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities, which is comprised of agency heads throughout the government. Since its inception, the program has indemnified 930 exhibitions, saving organizers nearly \$250 million in insurance premiums. Some 250 museums nationwide have participated in the program, which helps make it possible for millions of Americans to see important works of art and artifacts from around the globe.

In December 2007, legislation was passed to create a domestic indemnity program to provide coverage of art and artifacts from American collections while on view in museums in the United States.

## LIMITS

### International Program:

- \$10 billion at any one time
- \$1.2 billion for any single exhibition
- Sliding scale deductible ranging from \$10,000 to \$500,000

### Domestic Program:

- \$5 billion at any one time
- \$750 million for a single exhibition
- \$75 million minimum for eligibility
- Sliding scale deductible ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000

Spanish artist Francisco de Zurbarán's *Still Life with Lemons, Oranges and a Rose*, 1633, was included in the indemnified exhibition *Masterpieces of European Painting from the Norton Simon Museum* at the Frick Collection in New York.

*Image courtesy of the Norton Simon Foundation.*



# Eligibility

The Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities is authorized to make indemnity agreements with U.S. nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations and governmental units for:

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

- Objects from abroad while on exhibition in the United States;
- Objects from the U.S. while on exhibition outside the U.S., preferably when part of an exchange;
- Objects from the U.S. while on exhibition in the U.S. so long as the exhibition includes other objects from outside the U.S. that are integral to the exhibition as a whole.

## DOMESTIC EXHIBITIONS

- Objects from the U.S. while on exhibition in the U.S.

Eligible objects include artworks, artifacts, rare documents, books, photographs, and film. Such objects must have educational, cultural, historical, or scientific value. International exhibitions must be certified by the Secretary of State as being in the national interest.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

Go to [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov) for exact dates; applications must be submitted electronically through [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov):

### INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS:

Submit:	Project may begin:
April	July
October	January

### DOMESTIC EXHIBITIONS:

Submit:	Project may begin:
July	October
January	April





A view of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's indemnified exhibition *Magritte and Contemporary Art: The Treachery of Images*, gallery space designed by California artist John Baldessari.

*Photo courtesy of Museum Associates/LACMA.*

## Examples of Indemnified Exhibitions

### ***Cézanne and Beyond***

Philadelphia Museum of Art  
(Pennsylvania)

### ***Endless Forms: Charles Darwin, Natural Science and the Visual Arts***

Yale Center for British Art  
(Connecticut)

### ***Art in the Age of Steam: Europe, America and the Railway***

Nelson-Atkins Museum  
(Missouri)

### ***Leonardo da Vinci: Drawings from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin***

Birmingham Museum of Art  
(Alabama)

### ***Hidden Treasures from the National Museum of Afghanistan, Kabul***

National Gallery of Art  
(Washington, DC)

### ***Van Gogh and the Colors of the Night***

Museum of Modern Art  
(New York)

### ***Matisse: Painter as Sculptor***

Dallas Museum of Art  
(Texas)

### ***Magritte and Contemporary Art: The Treachery of Images***

Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
(California)

### ***Louvre Atlanta***

High Museum of Art  
(Georgia)

### ***The Aztec World***

Field Museum of Natural History  
(Illinois)

### ***El Greco to Velázquez: Art During the Reign of Philip III***

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
(Massachusetts)

### ***Life in the Pacific in the 1700s***

Honolulu Academy of Arts  
(Hawaii)



Marcel Duchamp's *Bicycle Wheel*, 1913/1964, from the indemnified exhibition *Surrealism and Beyond in the Israel Museum, Jerusalem* at the Cincinnati Art Museum in 2009.

*Photo courtesy of the Vera and Arturo Schwarz Collection of Dada and Surrealist Art from the Collection of the Israel Museum, Jerusalem.*

### HOW TO APPLY

Organizations interested in applying may obtain information by contacting:

**Alice M. Whelihan**  
Indemnity Administrator  
Telephone: 202-682-5574  
Fax: 202-682-5603  
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### National Endowment for the Arts

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