



The American Kennel Club
Museum of the Dog
Gift Policy

The American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog was established to collect, preserve, and exhibit works of art and artifacts of artistic and historical value pertaining to the dog. In this way, the Museum can foster, promote, and increase the knowledge, appreciation, and understanding of the dog. All works of art offered to the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog must be considered by an accessions committee, if applicable a conservation authority, and the Board of Directors. The proposed gifts may not constitute museum quality art as mandated by professional protocol. The accessions committee will endeavor to show sensitivity to the donor's feelings while maintaining the highest standards of museums.

The following are the criteria by which the museum considers new gifts:

- What is the aesthetic or historical significance of the object?
- Is the object consistent with the collection goals of the museum?
- In what ways will the object help the museum fulfill its stated mission?
- Is the object museum quality, and further, is it in condition to be exhibited or will conservation methods be required?
- Does the museum have the proper means and facilities to safeguard the object according to accepted museum practices? The museum presently has limited storage space and must consider the high costs of insuring and correctly maintaining each object it accepts.
- What is the history of the object? Is the object authentic?

These criteria also apply to bequests. All offers accepted by the accessions committee are given unconditionally and absolutely to the museum. Loans (whether short-term or long-term) will not be accepted. The donor may not reserve reproduction rights to the object. Each donor will sign a Deed of Gift acknowledging the acceptance of these conditions.

If the prospective donor decides to proceed with the donation, the museum director will request a full written description of the object(s). Electronic images of the object will be adequate if professional photographs cannot be provided. The written description, to the extent possible, should include measurements, materials, marks, provenance, and any other pertinent information which will assist the accessions committee. If the accessions committee accepts the donor's gift, the donor will then be advised of the best method of transporting or shipping the artwork to the museum. The cost of shipping and insurance on an art object(s) while in transit are the responsibility of the donor.



If required, the donor must obtain an appraisal from a qualified appraiser. This appraisal must be summarized in the appropriate tax form as required by the Internal Revenue Service regulations. The American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, and gifts are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. For reasons of conflict of interest, neither the museum staff nor any of its Board of Directors can provide appraisals. An individual may wish to contact the American Society of Appraisers for information about available appraisers.

These criteria and procedures apply to legacies as well. The museum will not accept gifts from which copies will be made as means of fundraising for other organizations. At the present time, the museum does not accept dog show or field show trophies, including those of sterling silver, unless they are known to be of extreme historical significance.