

FACULTY GUIDE
TO THE USE OF THE
SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE
ART GALLERY
2009-2010



1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117-2791

INTRODUCTION

The Saint Joseph College Art Gallery, located in Bruyette Athenaeum in The Carol Autorino Center for the Arts and Humanities, houses the College's permanent collection of about 2,000 works of art. The core of the collection consists of important American paintings and prints of the early twentieth century, including works by Thomas Hart Benton, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Milton Avery (the gift of the Reverend Andrew J. Kelly in 1937), and European and American prints from the fifteenth to the early twentieth centuries, including work by Albrecht Dürer, Rembrandt, Mary Cassatt, Childe Hassam, and George Bellows (the bequest of the Reverend John J. Kelley in 1966). Later twentieth-century and contemporary prints comprise a collection established to honor Sister Mary Theodore Kelleher, RSM, former president of the College.

The Art Gallery presents regular exhibitions drawn from its permanent collection as well as loan exhibitions of historic art or of contemporary work by artists of national and international stature. It offers a variety of student internships and work opportunities, and its collections and exhibitions provide rich resources for teaching.

The mission of the Saint Joseph College Art Gallery is to “inspire, instruct, challenge, encourage inquiry and promote scholarship through the development and preservation of the permanent collection as well as through research, exhibitions and programs.” As “a resource for teaching and lifelong learning” the Art Gallery will “deepen the understanding of visual art from diverse cultures, stimulate creative endeavors, and enrich the lives of students, the college community, and the general public.”

All faculty from Saint Joseph College, the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, and other institutions of higher learning are welcome to use the resources of the Art Gallery. We are eager to help you find appropriate and effective ways to integrate the Art Gallery's collections and exhibitions in your teaching. If you have a special request that does not fall into any of the categories described below, or if you are unfamiliar with the Art Gallery and would like suggestions, please call or e-mail us. Exhibition schedules, security requirements, and our responsibility to the general public as well as to the Saint Joseph College and Hartford Consortium communities may impose certain constraints, but we will do our best to meet your request or suggest alternative strategies.

We encourage you to bring your classes, to make assignments involving works of art from the collection, and to suggest other ways we can work together to help students make the most of the Art Gallery's resources.

Art Gallery Staff:

Ann H. Sievers, Director and Curator
860-231-5367; asievers@sjc.edu

Call or e-mail to discuss ways of using the collection in teaching.

Rochelle L.R. Oakley, Collections Manager/Registrar
860-231-5743; rreitinger@sjc.edu

Call or e-mail to schedule class visits, make appointments for the Print Study Room, consult Art Gallery records, or for general information.

THE ART GALLERY'S FACILITIES

Exhibition Galleries

Public open hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Closed Monday

The Art Gallery is closed on major holidays and when the College is closed. The exhibition galleries may be closed partially or completely during installation of exhibitions. For up-to-date information, call or see our Web site.

The Art Gallery follows Saint Joseph College's inclement weather policy and will close if and when the College closes. Closings are announced via the switchboard at 860-232-4571.

The exhibition galleries present temporary exhibitions usually lasting eight to twelve weeks. These range from installations of works from the permanent collection to loan exhibitions organized by the Saint Joseph College Art Gallery or other institutions. Usually at least one of the Art Gallery's five exhibition galleries displays objects from the permanent collection, but from time to time a large special exhibition may occupy the entire Art Gallery. Call or see our Web site for detailed information regarding upcoming exhibitions and related programming.

The Dr. Vincent J. and Gloria Marcello Turco '45 Print Study Room

The Turco Print Study Room houses the Art Gallery's collection of works of art on paper. Because of their vulnerability to damage from long-term exposure to light, works on paper are publicly exhibited for limited periods. Prints and drawings that are not on exhibition are made accessible for study and enjoyment in the Turco Print Study Room. It is open by appointment only, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The walls of the Print Study can display about six framed works. Unframed works of art on paper can be displayed for classes on the Study Room's tables. The Turco Print Study can accommodate several individual visitors at one time or a group of up to fifteen people.

CLASS VISITS TO THE ART GALLERY

Self- Guided Visits

You are welcome to bring your classes to the exhibition galleries on a self-guided visit. If you wish to bring your class during regular open hours (see above), please reserve ahead to avoid conflict with other classes or groups. For visits during weekday hours when the Art Gallery is closed to the public, we ask that you reserve at least one week ahead so that we may make arrangements to accommodate your visit. Visits may be scheduled Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Weekend or evening visits require scheduling three weeks in advance.

Tour-guided Visits

If you would like a tour by Art Gallery staff on a specialized topic, please call Ann Sievers, Director and Curator, well in advance to discuss the possibilities.

Class Visits to Copy Works of Art

You may arrange for your class to come as a group to copy works of art on display in the exhibition galleries. Permissible drawing materials include graphite pencils, colored pencils, and Conté crayons. Drawing boards are not available at the Art Gallery, but students may bring their own boards (any size up to 24 x 36 inches).

Visits must be scheduled in advance, and all classes must be accompanied by their instructor. Call or email Rochelle Oakley with any questions.

Class Visits to the Turco Print Study Room

To bring a class to view works in the Print Study Room, please reserve at least two weeks in advance. The Print Study Room can accommodate groups of up to fifteen people. You will need to submit a list of the works you wish your class to see one week before your visit. Unless you are quite familiar with the collection, this usually requires at least one advance visit to view and select objects. Please call with any questions.

If you would like your class to incorporate multiple visits to the Print Study Room, please discuss this with Ann Sievers before the start of the semester in which you'll be teaching the class.

Visitor Amenities

A coat room is located in the lobby of Bruyette Athenaeum. Coin-return lockers are available in the coat room. A passenger elevator is available for those visiting the Turco Print Study Room and the Collections Manager's Office, both of which are on the second floor of Bruyette Athenaeum. Before your class visit, you may wish to make your students aware of the *Guidelines for Visitors*, which are posted on the Art Gallery's Web site.

Visitors with Special Needs

If you or your students have special needs, please let us know in advance. With sufficient notice we can arrange for a sign language interpreter (fees may apply), supply an assistive listening device, or provide a wheelchair.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT VISITS AND ASSIGNMENTS USING THE COLLECTION

We hope you will encourage your students to visit the Art Gallery on their own to study and enjoy the permanent collection and special exhibitions. There are many ways we can facilitate individual research projects or other assignments involving objects in the Art Gallery.

Paintings: If there is a particular object (or objects) you wish to use for a class assignment or visit, please let Rochelle Oakley know as early as possible. Art Gallery installations change periodically and major works sometimes go out on loan to exhibitions at other institutions. If we

know you plan to make a particular object the focus of a class assignment, we will try to accommodate your wish whenever possible. Please notify us in advance to avoid disappointment.

Works on Paper: If you wish your students to undertake research papers or other assignments on individual objects, we can support this in variety of ways. For example, a small number of works can be framed and hung in the Print Study for the duration of the assignment, or a small selection of unframed works may be placed “on reserve” in the Print Study Room for consultation by individual students. Please consult Ann Sievers about the possibilities as far in advance as possible.

Securing Reproductions of Objects in the Permanent Collection

Slides, photographs, and color transparencies of some (but not all) objects in the permanent collection are available for purchase or rental. For use in lectures, slides of some objects can be borrowed by faculty for limited periods. Quantities of slides and photographs are limited, so if an entire class will need reproductions, please consult Rochelle Oakley to discuss the possibilities.

Art Gallery Records

The Art Gallery maintains permanent records on individual objects in its collection, on artists represented in the collection, and on past exhibitions. Faculty and students may consult these curatorial files by prior arrangement with Rochelle Oakley.

Collection Database

The Art Gallery is developing a database (including images) of information pertaining to objects in the permanent collection. Although there is no public access to the database at this time, the Art Gallery staff can extract selected information for your use (e.g., lists organized by artist, medium, etc.). Call or e-mail Rochelle Oakley with any requests for information.

We hope to inaugurate a public access kiosk in the Turco Print Study Room within a year and to allow access via the internet within two years. As these services become available, we will announce them on the Art Gallery’s Web site.

Art Gallery Web Site.

Our Web site undergoes regular review to make it more useful and accessible. It will be your best source of up-to-date information on the Art Gallery’s exhibitions and programs. Class visits may also be booked online.

Exhibition Calendar

See the Art Gallery’s Web site for information on current and upcoming exhibitions.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Each year, the Saint Joseph College Art Gallery offers a variety of opportunities for students seeking experience in museum work. While many of these are specifically for students at Saint Joseph College, students at Hartford Consortium members or from other institutions are encouraged to get in touch with the Art Gallery if they have a serious interest in museum work. Current opportunities are posted on the Art Gallery’s Web site.

Internships. Each year the Art Gallery offers single-semester and academic-year internships for Saint Joseph College students. Although these internships are unpaid, students may receive academic credit with the approval of a faculty sponsor. Past offerings have included internships

in Museum Archives, Collections Management, Conservation, and Museum Education. Current offerings are posted on the Art Gallery's Web site.

Work-study Positions. Two to four paid positions for eligible Saint Joseph College students are available at the Art Gallery each academic year. Former work-study students have catalogued works of art, developed mailing lists, and helped move the permanent collection into new storage rooms.

Volunteer Program. The Art Gallery is always in need of volunteers. Long-term and short-term opportunities are available throughout the year and include projects in education, public relations and marketing, and other areas. Special calls for volunteers are posted on our Web site. Call or email Rochelle Oakley for further information.