

Booth Western Art Museum – General Questions

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Visiting the Booth Western Art Museum

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Booth Western Art Museum – General Questions

1. When did the Museum open?

The Museum opened in August 2003.

2. Who is Sam Booth?

Sam Booth is the namesake of the Museum. He was a good friend and mentor to the founders of the Museum. He is not the founder of the Museum.

3. Why is the Museum located in Cartersville?

The Museum was started by a local family and others who have been Western art collectors for many years. They wanted to share their art with the community, particularly young people who might not otherwise be exposed to art, so they decided to build a Museum to showcase their collections. The founders prefer anonymity.

4. How is the Museum funded?

The Museum is a 501 (c)(3) public charity funded in part by donations from individuals, foundations, and sponsorships, as well as through memberships, admissions, and merchandise sales.

5. What does it mean that you are an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution?

The Smithsonian Affiliations program is a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. and numerous museums and other organizations across the country. To become an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, an organization goes through a rigorous application and inspection process which can take months to complete. It is a great honor to be accepted as an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. As an Affiliate, the Booth Museum has access to a number of Smithsonian resources and the ability to borrow objects from the Smithsonian Institution. Also, guests to Smithsonian Affiliates can rest assured that they are visiting the top museums in the country.

6. If the Booth Western Art Museum is the second largest art museum in the state of Georgia, which art museum is the largest?

The High Museum of Art in Atlanta, GA

7. What do you mean when you say you are a contemporary art museum?

Contemporary art is defined as art of the late 20th and 21st centuries. Luckily, that means many of the artists represented in the collection are still living, so they can visit the Museum to give lectures and art demonstrations.

8. Are there other similar facilities anywhere else in the United States?

There are 10 or 12 major Western art museums in the U.S. such as the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Center (formerly the Cowboy Hall of Fame) in Oklahoma City; The Gilcrease in Tulsa; the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming; the Autry National Center in Los Angeles, and several others. The only two in the East are the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis and the Rockwell Museum of Western Art in Corning, New York. We are the only one in the Southeast.

9. I am an artist. Can I exhibit my art at the Booth Western Art Museum?

If you are an artist and your subject matter is Western, Civil War or Presidential, you may be eligible to exhibit at the Booth Western Art Museum. To find out more, please contact the curatorial department at curatorial@boothmuseum.org.

10. Is any of the work at the Booth Western Art Museum for sale?

The Booth Western Art Museum does not sell any of the artwork from the permanent collection you see on exhibit. A limited number of prints, posters, and sculptures are available for sale in the Museum Store. Items on exhibition in the Borderlands Gallery or the Theatre Lobby Gallery are often for sale. Interested parties are directed to contact the artist to purchase these items. Contact information and a price list are provided for each such exhibition.

11. How do I find out more about an artist in your collection?

Links to artist biographies and websites are available on the Booth Western Art Museum website under the Collections tab. If you are in need of more information on an artist or cannot find them online, please contact the Booth Museum Library at library@boothmuseum.org.

Visiting the Booth Western Art Museum

1. Can I take pictures in the Museum?

Cameras are welcome at Booth Western Art Museum for private, non-commercial use only. Photography is not permitted in special exhibitions or areas designated, “no

photography.” **Flashes, video cameras, monopods, and tripods are prohibited.** Photographs cannot be published, sold, reproduced, transferred, distributed, or otherwise commercially exploited in any manner whatsoever.

2. Can I touch the artwork?

No, you may not touch the artwork in the Museum. Human skin contains oils that can discolor the surface of an artwork and attract dirt. Over time, the accumulation of fingerprint grime can lead to an unsightly appearance and even the breakdown of the surface of the object. For paintings, paint layers are fragile, and a careless finger can easily cause paint to flake off the surface.

3. Is the Museum handicap accessible?

Yes, the Museum is handicap accessible. We offer a limited number of wheelchairs for visitors to use if needed. An elevator is available to move guests between floors, and benches are placed throughout the Museum for the convenience of our guests.

4. Can I bring my young children to the Museum?

The Museum is a great place to bring your children. It’s a wonderful place to introduce them to art and the Museum experience. We encourage parents to share the Museum with their children and provide a special Family Guide that provides tips on how to make the most of your visit with your children. Saddlebags are also available for guests to check out from the reception desk. These bags contain activities for children and families.

5. How can I get a guided tour of the Museum?

A guided Highlights Tour is given everyday (Tuesday – Sunday) at 1:30 pm for all visitors to the Museum. This tour generally lasts about 60 minutes. A guided tour is also available for groups of 10 or more who make reservations prior to visiting the Museum.

6. How long will it take me to see the Museum?

We recommend that you plan on at least 2 hours to see the Museum although many people take longer.