



# American Patrons of the National Library and Galleries of Scotland



Scots are inventive and creative people. They have given the world golf, whisky, the decimal point, television, the postage stamp, radar, the telephone, *Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, the bicycle, penicillin, *Auld Lang Syne*, logarithms, the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, anaesthesia, the steam engine, James Bond, the pneumatic tire and the hypodermic needle to name just some of their achievements.

This search for knowledge and sense of inquiry has bequeathed to Scotland a rich cultural heritage reflected in its world class collections of art and letters. The American Associations of two of Scotland's premier cultural institutions – the National Library of Scotland and the National Galleries of Scotland – have joined forces to create an inspiring partnership to help share that knowledge.

As guardians of Scotland's National Collections, the Library and Galleries share a core mission to safeguard, interpret and present the nation's heritage and culture. Through collaborations in pursuit of these aims, such as a joint acquisition of an internationally significant photography collection and a programme of skills development for young people, the Galleries and Library extend their impact and reach. Please consider supporting them in this mission.



# National Library of Scotland



The National Library of Scotland is a major research library and the leading center for the study of Scotland and the Scots. Its collections span the centuries from early times to the digital age, housing millions of books, manuscripts, music and maps covering virtually every subject. Through these collections, it charts the global and historical influence of Scots at home and abroad, while also recording and reflecting the ideas and cultures of the world.

The Library is at the forefront of innovation in making more of its collections available online. More than five million people now visit its website every year, ensuring worldwide access to many diverse collections and services by anyone, anywhere and at anytime. Find out more at [www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk)



## A Journey Through the History of Two Nations

The Library collects a wide range of American material which provides a fascinating insight into US history and its close and enduring relationship with Scotland and the Scots. This features a wealth of rare printed and manuscript material including items relating to America's presidential history, its colonial governance, the War of 1812 and the Civil War. Many important figures are represented including Benjamin Franklin, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

American literature and its writers – including Herman Melville, James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving and Edith Wharton – are equally well represented.

The collections give an insight into early travel in America, containing many personal accounts of Scottish emigration to the USA. The National Library of Scotland's map collection is one of the largest in the world and contains detailed coverage of the Americas through the ages.

The Library also provides access to vast digital collections of Americana. This includes Early American Imprints (1639–1800) with over two million pages of early American publishing and Sabin Americana (1500s to early 1900s) which contains works relating to exploration of the Americas, trade, slavery and its abolition, Native Americans, military actions and much more.

# National Galleries of Scotland



The National Galleries of Scotland hold and exhibit some of the world's finest collections of western art from Old Masters to the modern day. These holdings include the national collection of Scottish art, presented in an international context.

The Galleries care for, research and develop the collections with the goal of sharing them with as wide a public as possible. Every year, they attract over a million visitors from Scotland and the rest of the world. The National Galleries of Scotland offer active programs of education, outreach and special exhibitions. To see and learn more, please visit [www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

## Building a Heritage of Art

Over one million people a year visit the National Galleries of Scotland. The buildings – the Scottish National Gallery, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery – have a long and varied history, from the Scottish National Gallery's foundation stone being laid by Prince Albert in 1850 to the opening of the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in 1960 and the ambitious redevelopment of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, reopened in December 2011.

The collection of Scottish and international art and photography is among the best in the world, with an outstanding collection of pictures by the greatest Old Masters, a fine Impressionist collection including Monet, Gauguin and van Gogh and major works by American artists such as Benjamin West, John Singleton Copley, John Singer Sargent and Frederick Edwin Church.

*“No man can become rich without himself enriching others”*

ANDREW CARNEGIE

The Gallery of Modern Art showcases the best in modern and contemporary art, including world-class surrealist art. Recently enriched with ARTIST ROOMS, a new touring collection of contemporary art, it includes impressive works by American artists, including Andy Warhol, Ed Ruscha, and Jeff Koons.

Throughout the galleries, we care for, research and display the national collection through a lively program of exhibitions and activities while striving to acquire works of art for future generations.



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