

Appraisal Information

The Tax Reform Act of 1984 bars museums and other donee organizations from providing appraisals for a donor's tax-deductible object. In addition, many professional codes of ethics prohibit museum staff from providing monetary appraisals. Museums are permitted to provide several sources for a potential donor or other interested party to seek these sources on their own.

Please note, the below listed appraisers are for information purposes only and are not an endorsement or recommendation of their services by the World Chess Hall of Fame.

For general information regarding valuations:

Jon Crumiller – jon@crumiller.com

Jon Crumiller is an avid antique chess set collector and researcher, and has compiled a database containing catalogs from the major auction houses. He is able to provide selling prices. His knowledge is extensive and his specialty is pre-20th century.

Frank Camaratta – fcamaratta@mindspring.com

Frank Camaratta has been an avid antique chess collector, appraiser, researcher and lecturer for the past 30 years, specializing in Jaques Staunton Pattern chessmen and other English playing sets. He is the Founder of the House of Staunton.

Floyd Sarisohn – lichess@aol.com

Floyd Sarisohn is another avid chess collector and is a founding member and a board member of Chess Collectors International. He has an extensive knowledge of chess sets but his specialty is 20th century.

For Official Appraisals for Tax Purposes:

Sotheby's

Melannie Chard

Assistant Vice President

Head of Department

Valuations, U.S.

(212) 894 1115

Enquiries@sothebys.com

Caroline Gillis

Director

Head of Department

Valuations, Europe

+44 20 7293 5174

Enquiries@sothebys.com

Christie's

Tash Perrin

Senior Vice President, Head of Department

Estates, Appraisals & Valuations

New York

info@christies.com

(212) 636 2400

<http://www.christies.com/services/estates-appraisals/contacts.aspx>

Steven Zick

Vice President Head of Office

Chicago

szick@christies.com

312 787 2765

Auction houses will charge for the service of an appraisal but may waive the fee if the owner sells the object through their business.

National Professional Associations:

These national professional associations can provide the name of a qualified appraiser in your geographic area:

The American Society of Appraisers

703-478-2228

www.appraisers.org

The Appraisers Association of America

212-889-5404

www.appraisersassoc.org

The Art Dealers Association of America

212-940-8590

www.artdealers.org

Additional Information:

An appraiser will want to see clear, high-quality photographs of the item as well as documentation and other information that could affect the value. Most likely, the appraiser will need to inspect the object. Appraisers will charge for their services.

Local telephone directories will list appraisers often under antiques, art, art dealers, or estate appraisers.

Public libraries often keep published price guides to antiques and collectibles as well as reference books on antiques and collectibles.

www.whatsitworthtoyou.com will do informal appraisals of an object for \$9.95 fee. Their experts will try to give as much history, research and information as possible about the object, which they base on your digital photos and description.

For more information, please contact Shannon Bailey, Chief Curator at the World Chess Hall of Fame. shannon.bailey@worldchesshof.org or (314) 367-9243 x103