

## **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](mailto: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-20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **Frank Camaratta – [fcamaratta@mindspring.com](mailto: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.

### **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](mailto:Enquiries@sothebys.com)

##### **Caroline Gillis**

Director  
Head of Department  
Valuations, Europe  
+44 20 7293 5174  
[Enquiries@sothebys.com](mailto:Enquiries@sothebys.com)

#### **Christie's**

##### **Tash Perrin**

Senior Vice President, Head of Department  
Estates, Appraisals & Valuations  
New York  
[info@christies.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.appraisers.org)

**The Appraisers Association of America**

212-889-5404

[www.appraisersassoc.org](http://www.appraisersassoc.org)

**The Art Dealers Association of America**

212-940-8590

[www.artdealers.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:shannon.bailey@worldchesshof.org) or (314) 367-9243 x103