

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **WILL THE MUSEUM DISPLAY MY DONATION?**
While each object in our collections is significant we cannot guarantee that your donation will be displayed. Less than 1% of our collections are on display at any given time. Please be aware that non-exhibited objects are nevertheless available for research and study. Accepted donations contribute to the strength of our collections regardless of whether they are on display.
- **CAN I DEDUCT THE DONATION ON MY TAXES?**
In many cases non-cash contributions are tax deductible. Please consult IRS guidelines on deductions for more information. Although we are happy to answer very general questions, please be advised that museum employees cannot provide advice on the potential tax benefits of a specific donation.
- **CAN I PLACE A RESTRICTION ON THE DONATION?**
As a general rule we do not accept donations that are made with restrictions (for example a requirement to always display an object or to retain it in perpetuity).
- **MAY I BEQUEATH OBJECTS TO THE MUSEUM'S ANTHROPOLOGY COLLECTIONS?**
Yes, if you are interested in a bequest please contact the Anthropology Registrar.
- **WHY CAN'T YOU IDENTIFY OR APPRAISE MY DONATION?**
It is a conflict of interest for museum employees or volunteers to provide identifications or appraisals of donations and is strictly forbidden by museum policy and professional codes of conduct. If you need assistance identifying or valuing an object, please contact a certified appraiser.
- **WILL THE MUSEUM PURCHASE MY OBJECTS?**
Although you are welcome to make an offer to sell, please note that we are rarely able to purchase objects.
- **CAN I SEND OBJECT DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM?**
Please do not send objects to the museum unless they have been approved and you are notified by the Registration Office. Unsolicited donations will be returned.
- **CAN I MAKE A DONATION IN SOMEONE'S NAME?**
Yes, if your donation is accepted you may request a credit line.