



CUL 8

Circular

Consulate
271D & 289F

JANUARY 10, 1966

SUBJECT: Assignment of Responsibility to the Smithsonian Institution
for the Conduct of International Exchange of Fine Arts Exhibits

This Circular advises field posts that the Smithsonian Institution has been assigned responsibility for the conduct of a Fine Arts Exhibit Program similar to that which the Agency has conducted. The Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Information Agency and the Smithsonian Institution is attached for the information and guidance of USIS posts.

1. Continuation of USIS Support - As described in the Memorandum of Understanding, USIS posts will continue their normal support for this program through FY-1967. ICS/Washington will coordinate and act as liaison with the Smithsonian Institution.
2. Communications - USIS field requests or other correspondence for the Smithsonian Institution will continue to be cleared and transmitted through State-USIA facilities. Posts should include the following in the address: ATTN: Smithsonian/NCFA.
3. USIS Budget and Accounting Changes - USIS support, to be maintained at present levels, consists of local and international shipping, installation, drayage, handling, catalog production, promotion, and other facilitative support. In order to accumulate data for use by the Smithsonian in planning and reimbursing the Agency for such support, if continued after FY-1967, the Agency is adding a new accounting sub-activity to its Allotment and Accounts Pattern. The new account, 18-10, Support to Fine Arts Exhibitions, should be cited for all non-salary costs of support to Fine Arts Exhibitions. Costs should be maintained separately by exhibition title. Obligations incurred thus far in FY-1966 should be transferred to this new sub-activity. This account should be cited for costs incurred for the balance of this fiscal year and throughout FY-1967. NOTE: Support costs incurred in FY-1966 and FY-1967 will not be reimbursed by the Smithsonian since support is to continue at present levels.

The new sub-activity will be added to the Agency's Budget Call (MOA VI-210) for next year. In addition, the Budget Call's table reflecting utilization of full-time USIS American and local personnel (MOA VI-215.10 and Exhibit 210A, page 1) will be revised to permit separate identification of the man-years devoted to support of Fine Arts exhibitions.

Attachment:

Memorandum of Understanding Between USIA and the Smithsonian Institution

DISTRIBUTION: B & Y

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY
AND
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
RELATIVE TO THE INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF FINE ARTS EXHIBITS

The U.S. Information Agency and the Smithsonian Institution have exchanged correspondence and have held meetings relative to the Smithsonian's willingness to carry out a program of international exchange of art exhibits, subject to the availability of funds for this purpose. The U.S. Information Agency fully supports the concept of having the Smithsonian execute such a program. The Agency will no longer budget for any similar activity abroad, except for such fine arts exhibitions as may be presented under Cultural Exchange Agreements in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and except for the continuation of international staffing and field support operations through Fiscal Year 1967.

Specifically, it is understood that:

1. The Smithsonian Institution will begin immediately to conduct a fine arts exhibits program similar to that which the U. S. Information Agency has been conducting. This program will include the international exchange of fine arts exhibits, as well as United States participation in the Venice and Sao Paulo Biennials and similar international events. The program will encompass only exhibits in the fine and decorative arts - that is, painting, sculpture, prints, folk arts, crafts and related categories. It will include the servicing of USIS field requests in these categories insofar as possible.
2. The Agency under authority of Public Law 87-256 (The Fulbright-Hays Act) and the related Executive Order No. 11034 dated June 26, 1962, will act immediately to make a grant of funds to the Smithsonian for the conduct of this activity during the balance of the Fiscal Year 1966. In addition the Agency will detail three employees (on a non-reimbursable basis) for the period November 15, 1965 through June 30, 1966.
3. The Smithsonian Institution proposes to include the exchange program in the exhibition of fine arts projected in this agreement in its regular exhibits program budget for Fiscal

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Year 1967. The Agency will continue through Fiscal Year 1967 to provide at present levels for international shipping services and for those elements of program support, such as local drayage, storage and handling, and the production of catalogs and other printed materials, which have as a rule been the responsibility of its field posts. The experience gained by the end of this period will enable the Smithsonian Institution to propose these items in the preparation of its own budget for Fiscal Year 1968. Agency field posts will continue to seek financial and other cooperation from non-U.S. government sources to help defray local expenses.

4. Should the Smithsonian wish to have USIS overseas posts provide the support services mentioned above during Fiscal Year 1968 and thereafter, an administrative support agreement between the Smithsonian and USIA will be negotiated for this purpose.
5. The Agency's overseas posts will continue to negotiate or make arrangements for local showings, provide adequate publicity and otherwise promote and facilitate the overseas display of fine arts exhibits provided by the Smithsonian within the limits of their capabilities, resources, and policies.
6. Communications to and from USIS overseas posts will be cleared and transmitted through State Department-USIA facilities.
7. The Department of State and the U.S. Information Agency will provide policy guidance to Smithsonian Institution on international relations and psychological factors, respectively, which would influence the program. The Agency will also furnish recommendations on USIS post suggestions concerning fine arts exhibits. The Smithsonian and the Agency will maintain continuing liaison for this purpose in accordance with the President's letter to the Director, U.S. Information Agency dated August 11, 1961. The Smithsonian will be responsible for the selection of works and general artistic quality of exhibits.
8. The U.S. Information Agency will continue to be responsible for all national exhibits, including those in the Fine Arts, which are presented in the Soviet Union and in Eastern European

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countries under Cultural Exchange Agreements. This will not preclude private or unofficial exhibits which the Smithsonian Institution may arrange in these countries.

For the U.S. Information Agency:

For the Smithsonian Institution:

Joseph C. Wheeler

Joseph C. Wheeler
Acting Assistant Director
(Administration)
U.S. Information Agency

Date November 12, 1965

James Bradley

James Bradley
Assistant Secretary
(Administration)
Smithsonian Institution

Date Nov 16, 1965