

COOPER HEWITT

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MEDIA ONLY

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COOPER HEWITT FACT SHEET

JUNE 17, 2014

MISSION

The only museum in the nation devoted exclusively to historic and contemporary design, Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum was founded in 1897 and has been part of the Smithsonian since 1967. Cooper Hewitt educates, inspires and empowers people through design by presenting exhibitions and educational programs and maintaining an active publications.

LOCATION

Cooper Hewitt is housed in the Andrew Carnegie Mansion on Museum Mile in New York City, on Fifth Avenue between 90th and 91st Streets. The 64-room mansion, built from 1899 to 1902, was designed by the architectural firm of Babb, Cook & Willard in the Georgian style.

LEADERSHIP

Caroline Baumann, Director; Barbara A. Mandel, Chairman, Board of Trustees and Beth Comstock, President, Board of Trustees

TOTAL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

70

ANNUAL BUDGET (FEDERAL AND TRUST) FY 2015

\$18 Million

MUSEUM HOURS

Open seven days a week. Sunday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

SHOP HOURS

Sunday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

CAFÉ AND GARDEN HOURS

Sunday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.



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ADMISSION

Adults, \$18. Seniors and college students, \$12. Children 18 and under, free.
Pay What You Wish, 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday.

TRANSPORTATION

Public transit routes include the Lexington Avenue 4, 5 and 6 subways (86th or 96th Street stations) and the Fifth Avenue and Madison Avenue buses.

ACCESSIBILITY

The museum is fully accessible.

COLLECTIONS

Cooper Hewitt's collection is international in scope and contains more than 200,000 objects spanning 30 centuries in four curatorial departments—Drawings, Prints and Graphic Design, Product Design and Decorative Arts, Textiles and Wall coverings—and is supported by the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Library and archives with more than 80,000 volumes, including 5,000 rare books.

RENOVATION AND EXPANSION

The museum renovation is part of a \$91 million capital campaign that includes enlarged and enhanced facilities for exhibitions, collections display, education programming and the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Library, and an increased endowment. The renovated facility is scheduled to open December 12, 2014, with 60 percent more gallery space and an entirely new visitor experience, with interactive, immersive creative technologies.

EXHIBITIONS

Cooper Hewitt's outstanding exhibitions program, which includes the *National Design Triennial*, will expand with the reopening of the renovated and transformed building. The museum will be able to offer four floors of exhibitions, including its first long-term installation of objects from the permanent collection.

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Cooper Hewitt exhibitions are traveling the nation and the globe, and the *Graphic Design: Now in Production* exhibition is currently on view in Providence, R.I.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The museum's Design in the Classroom program, which teaches 21st-century skills by using design as a tool across the curriculum, has served more than 60,000 New York City K-12 public school children during the past three years. Design in the Classroom will launch

nationally in July 2014 in New Orleans, New York City, San Antonio, Washington, D.C., Cleveland and Minneapolis. The museum also offers professional development programs for K-12 teachers, including lesson plans aligned to national standards, which highlight design as a teaching tool across the curriculum. The Cooper Hewitt Design Center in Harlem, which opened in May 2012, has served more than 25,000 people with programs that include Target Design Kids, drop-in design programs with free workshops for children ages 5 and older, and evening public programs for adults, including the Design Talks and Harlem Focus series.

Also a center for scholarly and applied research, the museum provides professional development and museum training to students through a graduate-level program in the history of decorative arts and design conducted in partnership with Parsons The New School for Design. The program, based at Cooper Hewitt, emphasizes object-based teaching, using the museum's collections.

WEB

To complement its physical transformation, Cooper Hewitt has a new website—www.cooperhewitt.org—which serves the expanding digital needs of the museum. Slimmed down and optimized for mobile devices, the website is the home for all the activities of the museum—its newly digitized collections, programs and content.

PUBLICATIONS

The museum publishes catalogs of its collection and exhibitions, as well as independent publications related to the museum's resources. The inaugural exhibitions for the expanded and renovated Cooper Hewitt—*Tools: Extending our Reach* and *Beautiful Users* (published by Princeton Architectural Press)—will be accompanied by fully-illustrated catalogues. Other reopening publications include *Making Design: Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum Collection*, *Life of a Mansion: The Story of Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum*; *My Favorite Things* (published by HarperCollins) and *Ah-ha to Zig-Zag: 31 Objects from Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum* (published by Skira/Rizzoli). All titles will be available in hard copy and e-book versions for all e-book readers. Cooper Hewitt also publishes DesignFile, a line of ebooks on design writing and research published in consortium with academic and institutional partners.

NATIONAL DESIGN AWARDS

Cooper Hewitt's most visible public program honors the year's most outstanding contributions from the design world. Now in their 15th year, the awards recognize the very best in American design across a range of disciplines. First Lady Michelle Obama serves as the Honorary Patron for the 2014 National Design Awards.

NATIONAL DESIGN WEEK

Inaugurated in 2006, National Design Week aims to promote a better understanding of the role that design plays in all aspects of daily life. This educational initiative makes great design widely accessible to the public through interactive events and programs for all audiences.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Led by chair Barbara Mandel and president Beth Comstock, Cooper Hewitt's board includes 35 distinguished civic and business leaders dedicated to the continued growth of the museum.

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Beth Comstock, President

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