MCNY's 2013 Amended Agreement with the City of New York Breaches the Intent of the Free Admission Provisions of the Original 1928 Agreement

See: Tickets/Visit

Free Admission Written in a Lease Agreement

Current Admissions Policy

See: Chapter 509 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1927 authorized the city of New York to acquire a site for a building to be used as a "public museum" and Sec. 2, authorized Museum of the City of New York, to erect a building through private donations. The first articulation of free admission for New Yorkers was set out in a January 26, 1928, Lease, amended July 7, 1931, with same admission provisions, as follows:

MCNY offers free admission to visitors 19 and under. MCNY uses a "suggested admission" with a suggested amount policy. New Yorkers can purchase only full suggested amount tickets online. MCNY offers discounted or free admission to categories of visitors - e.g., "I'm a Neighbor", Travel Passes and Tour Buses, Affiliates and Corporate Members.

"Section Seventh: The Museum will keep open to the public, free of charge, the exhibition halls of its said building or buildings on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of each week, from ten o'clock A.M. until half an hour before sunset, ... All professors and teachers of the public schools of the City of New York, or other institutions of learning in said city in which instruction is given free of charge, shall be admitted ... free of any charge therefor ..."

[emphasis added, produced in response to FA's Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request]

NOTE: MCNY was provided land initially classified as a "school purpose" site.

Hence, the liberal policy for professors and teachers. A 2013 Lease Amendment between MCNY and the City of New York was produced in response to FA's Freedom of Information Law [FOIL] request. The Amendment reports that the City gave MCNY permission in November 1987 to charge a discretionary fee. Evidence of the City's 1987 approval was not produced. In a 2013 Amendment to the 1928 Lease, the City provided to MCNY the right to "set the terms of admission to the general public ..."

NOTE: In 2013, the Bloomberg Administration also Amended Lease Agreements with The Metropolitan Museum of Art [MMA] and the American Museum of Natural History [AMNH]. Research suggests New York State law controls the terms of admission regarding AMNH and MMA, and the Amendments should be voided. As to MCNY, the 2013 Amendment diminishes New Yorkers' initial "free" access rights and should be challenged as to the spirit and letter of the PPP "consideration" New Yorkers were to receive. [see PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP]

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MCNY'S ADMISSION POLICY DOES NOT COMPLY with the spirt of the PPP because it: [1] Denies New Yorkers free access on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

[2] <u>Denies</u> professors and teachers in New York City public schools and institutions of learning where instruction is given free of charge, free access during all operating hours.

Free access to the PEC institutions is unique to New Yorkers and is provided for in the laws and contracts applicable to the PPP structure. Stewards of PEC institutions may choose to charge an admission fee to other visitors.