# Tips for maintaining your art collection and preparing for an appraisal

Caring for your collection extends beyond maintaining the physical condition of the objects. It is important to keep good object records and a collection history as information will be invaluable for insurance reasons in case of theft or disaster.

Be sure to create a folder for each object in your collection. In your file include the following items:

Color photographs of the object, including full-view and details—front, back, framed, unframed—tip: document multiple views of three-dimensional works.

Purchase date, price and vendor data

Artist/maker info including life dates title of work

Detailed description of object's subject matter or type of work

Date of work

Dimensions: for three-dimensional work, overall object, and base measurements (LxWxH). For two-dimensional work, measure it framed and unframed (HxW)

Media and support data (articles, reference, etc.)

Create a detailed description of object: include location of scratches, losses, dents, abrasions, and so on.

Copies of all conservation and appraisal reports

Text of inscriptions, markings, and labels

Ownership history (provenance)

If your work is cited in any exhibition and/or auction catalogues or catalogues raisonné, include bibliographic information

Exhibition and loan history

### **Art Appraisers Reference List**

We appreciate how challenging it can be researching an heirloom, flea market find or estate sale discovery, but Library staff is not authorized to assess the value of your collectibles nor act as appraisers.

We can, however, provide you with internet sites, resources in the Library collection and a broad list of professional art appraisers in Northeast Kansas as well as links to some of the large auction houses.

**Appraisers** will ask you what you need the appraisal for: insurance, sale, or donation. They collect different information for these purposes. They charge for their services. The IRS has certain rules for appraisers for items that are donated for tax deductions, so ask your tax advisor.

#### What the letters mean:

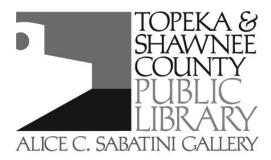
(AAA) Appraisers Association of America

(ASA) American Society of Appraisers

(ISA) International Society of Appraisers

Online appraisal sites offer appraisals, some for free. However, these are not official appraisals, only quick estimates of what they think a work might bring at auction. These might be useful for an idea of value, but they are not suitable for insurance or donations. TSCPL has many books and resources to estimate values, including the Collectibles Neighborhood.

A **reverse image search** can help identify an image, artist, or style. Upload a photo of the work to a reverse search website, and see what images are similar to yours.



#### **APPRAISERS**

#### Art of Estates — Art Appraisals & Consulting

Country Club Plaza, 4741 Central St., #52 Kansas City, MO 64112 816-808-7562 www.artofestates.com 316-613-9686

#### **Glenn Books**

## Frederic Gilhousen, Christopher Cassell & Larisa Cassell

360 Kaw Lane East Shawnee Mission, KS 66217 913-268-0767

Areas of expertise: books, antiquarian, first editions, illustrated and children's books, private press, American & English literature, natural history, book arts, bindings

#### **Dunbar, Dr. Burton (AAA)**

Box 30147 Kansas City MO, 64112 913-707-6300 | 800-395-9863 (out-of-state) Fax: (913) 648-5740 Fine arts and antiques

Topeka, KS in Fleming Place, 10th & Gage

#### **Jayhawk Coins Games & More**

785-408-5328 jayhawkkcgm.com 785-230-9664 Appraisals & Estate Services, Licensed antique and collectibles appraiser

#### Kearns, Susan H (ISA) | SH Kearns Co. Ltd.

6800 College Blvd Suite 260 Overland Park, KS 66211 913-339-9955

Areas of expertise: gems, jewelry

#### Madison Group of Fine Art Appraisals

200 E. 30th St.
Kansas City, MO 64108
816-708-0705
mgfaa.com
Rachael Cozad rachael@mgfaa.com
Johanna Diercks johanna@mgfaa.com

#### Justin Rogers, ISA AM, Fine Arts

1806 Jefferson #301 Kansas City MO 64108 913-669-6502 Isa-appraisers.org http://rogersfineart.com

#### **Lloyd Zimmer**

By appointment only Books and Maps 60 Poplar Heights Rd. Chanute, KS 66720 785-354-8899 Iloyd@ksbiblio.com

Areas of expertise: printed and manuscript material: books, atlases, maps, photographs, diaries and letters related to Kansas, western Americana, cartography, psychology, psychoanalysis, rare & out-of-print books of all genres

#### **CONSULTATIONS**

#### **Bob Swain | Beauchamp Gallery**

3113 SW Huntoon, Topeka, KS 66604 785-233-0300

Areas of expertise: consultation (not appraising), art framing, cleaning, some restoration; Robert Sudlow and artists they represent

#### **SNW Gallery**

406 1/2 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502 785-537-2099 info@SNWGallery.com

Areas of expertise: Regional Kansas artists

#### **FOR HIGHER END ART**

#### **Art Dealers Association of America**

575 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022 212-940-8590

#### Christie's Appraisals

502 Park Avenue at 59th Street, New York, NY 10022 212-546-1143

#### **Sotheby's Appraisals**

1334 York Avenue, New York, NY 10022 212-606-7045