



Portland Vase, c. 50 AD
British Museum, London

MSC Forsyth Center Galleries London Cultural Trip Application

Due: November 2, 2007

Dear Texas A&M University Student:

The MSC Forsyth Center Galleries are sponsoring a London Cultural Trip (LCT), March 7-15, 2008. The trip includes visits to major London museums and other sites, a day trip to the home of English cameo glass, and a free day for travel and touring on your own. Group size is strictly limited to 10 students.

This trip is open to any Texas A&M University student who will be enrolled in Spring 2008. Criteria for selection are: a demonstrated interest in the arts (40%); preference for students with limited or no previous international travel experience (30%); and an ability and willingness to serve as ambassadors for the Galleries, the Memorial Student Center and Texas A&M University while abroad (30%).

Applicants are evaluated through: a written application and personal statement; two letters of reference; and a personal interview.

Cost per student is \$1000.00, paid to the MSC Forsyth Center Galleries. Additional underwriting of \$300 is provided by the Galleries' Bill and Irma Runyon Memorial Fund. Payment and underwriting covers airfare, housing (one or more students per room), ground transportation (train and subway), theatre tickets and most admission fees, plus Galleries' professional staff members as guides. Students will also need a minimum of \$200 (credit cards, local currency, traveler's checks) for meals, travel on their own and other expenses. (This does not include additional expenses for non-essentials such as souvenirs).

In addition to the subsidy provided through the Runyon Fund, students may also apply for financial assistance and/or scholarships through the J. Wayne Stark Fund, the L. T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness, or other university sources.

Other requirements for travel are: a current, valid passport; documented health insurance; completing and signing the MSC LCT travel contract; completed Memorial Student Center Release Form; active participation in pre-trip orientation and educational meetings; assisting in LCT planning and training to serve as a "tour guide" for a designated venue or part of the trip.

The group will be based in London, with a day trip to Dudley Metropolitan Borough (Birmingham, England area) to see the birthplace of English cameo glass. Museums in London include: the Victoria & Albert Museum, the National Gallery, the Tate Modern, and the British Museum (*Rosetta Stone, Elgin Marbles* from the Parthenon, *Portland Vase*).

Dudley is home to the Broadfield House Glass Museum, where students will learn more about the English cameo glass owned by Texas A&M University. The last day is free for students to travel either in or out of the greater London area (students must file travel plans with group leader). A complete LCT itinerary will be provided before departure.

For more information or to apply, please contact staff representative Rosemary Hickman at rosemary@msc.tamu.edu or 979-845-9251. Completed applications are to be turned into the MSC Forsyth Center Galleries security desk (open 9:00 am – 8:00 pm, M – F; 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm, Sa/Su) or by contacting Rosemary Hickman at the above numbers. Applications and letters of reference are due no later than 5:00 pm, November 2, 2007.

It is the policy of the Texas A&M University that each person shall be considered solely on the basis of qualifications, without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disabilities, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Please be aware that other countries may have differing laws and regulations regarding handicap and other access, and that Texas A&M University can therefore not guarantee accessibility in those countries.

Please fill out this application carefully. Participants are selected through a competitive process and the contents of the application are part of this process. All information is confidential, and will be viewed only by the application committee.

Name (as on passport, and/or full name): _____

Local address and telephone: _____

Email: _____ Major: _____ Current overall GPR: _____

Classification as of Spring 2008: _____ Planned graduation date: _____

Art Experiences (40%)

Please list your experiences and activities in the arts (visual arts, music, drama, other) here at Texas A&M University, while in high school, or elsewhere. For example, did you participate in high school band or drama? List length of time you were member of arts group(s), any leadership positions, and other arts experiences. Attach additional pages if needed.

Previous International Travel Experience (30%)

Preference is give to students with no or limited previous international travel experience. Please note: students with international travel experience will still be considered for the trip! Please list any previous travel international experience, approximate dates of travel, countries visited.

Representing Texas A&M University (30%)

Your ability to represent Texas A&M University well while abroad will primarily be evaluated through letters of reference and the personal interview. Please submit (typed, one page or less) what your goals are in applying for the 2008 London Cultural Trip. What benefits do you expect to receive at the personal level, as a student, and as an art "ambassador" from the Texas A&M University?

References

Please list two persons below who will be writing letters or emails of reference for you. These letters may be from faculty, staff, or others; letters of reference from students or family members are not accepted. The letters should focus on how the referee rates your abilities to contribute as a student traveler to LCT and to serve as a positive representative of Texas A&M University.

References are due no later than November 2, 2007 and may be submitted in a sealed envelope to the MSC Security Desk, mailed to Attn: Rosemary Hickman, 1237 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843, or submitted by email: rosemary@msc.tamu.edu.

Reference #1, Name, Title: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Reference #2, Name, Title: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

All completed applications will be reviewed. The top applicants will be asked to participate in an interview, with the final selection of participants completed no later than (November 16, 2007).

Please submit this application no later than 5pm Friday, November 2, 2007. NO LATE APPLICATIONS OR REFERENCES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Thank you!