



Charles and Anna Taft



## HISTORY AND COLLECTION

The museum's collection galleries are located in the Baum-Longworth-Sinton-Taft historic house—downtown Cincinnati's oldest wooden residence still in its original location. The mansion was home to generations of prominent Cincinnatians, including Martin Baum, Nicholas Longworth, David Sinton, Anna Sinton Taft, and Charles Phelps Taft.

The house was built around 1820 for businessman Martin Baum and purchased in 1830 by horticulturalist and art patron Nicholas Longworth. Longworth hired Robert S. Duncanson, the first Black American artist to earn an international reputation, to paint eight large landscape murals in his entry hall. These are now recognized as the most important pre-Civil War domestic murals in the United States. In 1976, the Taft historic house and the Duncanson murals were designated as National Historic Landmarks.

After Longworth's residency, David Sinton and his daughter, Anna, occupied the house. Anna married Charles Phelps Taft in 1873, and the two lived together in the house for over fifty years. When Anna inherited her father's fortune in 1900, the couple began collecting art. In 1927, they bequeathed their house and collection of 530 works to the people of Cincinnati. The Taft Museum of Art opened in 1932.

*(continued on the back)*

## HISTORY AND COLLECTION

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The Taft collection, now numbering over 800 objects, features Chinese porcelains, American furniture, and European decorative arts, including a remarkable collection of French Renaissance enamels and one of the most exceptional medieval ivory sculptures in the United States. The major holdings of European and American paintings include works by such leading artists as Thomas Gainsborough, Francisco Goya, Rembrandt van Rijn, John Singer Sargent, J. M. W. Turner, and James McNeill Whistler.

In 2004, the museum opened a renovated and expanded building with a new special exhibition gallery, classroom, lecture hall, café, shop, and workspaces, and redecorated the house's interiors to present different design eras: from the house's construction in about 1820 through the last years of the Tafts' residency in the 1920s. Today, the museum presents changing exhibitions in the Fifth Third and Sinton galleries as well as rotating experiences in the collection galleries. The museum completed its Bicentennial Infrastructure Project in 2022 to preserve its 200-year-old historic house—the Taft's largest work of art.

**taft**

MUSEUM OF ART

**Discover the Taft Museum of Art.  
There's simply no other experience like it.**

[taftmuseum.org](http://taftmuseum.org)



# VISITOR GUIDE

ABOVE: Raimundo de Madrazo y Garreta (Spanish, 1841–1920), *Charles Phelps Taft* (left, detail), and *Anna Sinton Taft* (right, detail), 1902, oil on canvas. Bequest of Charles Phelps Taft and Anna Sinton Taft, 3.1931 and 4.1931

BACK: Photo of the Taft Museum of Art by Ryan Kurtz

# VISITOR INFORMATION

## Memberships

Enjoy free admission to the Taft collection galleries and special exhibitions year-round. Memberships begin at \$35 annually and include guest passes, discounts in the Museum Shop and café, and reduced and free admission for programs and events.

For more information, please email [Membership@taftmuseum.org](mailto:Membership@taftmuseum.org) or ask the Visitor Experience team about applying today's admission toward a membership!

## Exploring the Galleries

Visitors of all ages are welcome at the Taft! Ask the Visitor Experience team about ways to enjoy the collection and special exhibitions during your visit.

## Accessibility & Accommodations

The museum is accessible to visitors with limited mobility, by providing wheelchairs, elevators and lifts, restrooms, parking, and ramps. The Taft also offers sensory accommodations including a quiet room, noise-reducing headphones, and braille and large-print materials to explore the museum collection and special exhibitions.

## Coatroom and Lockers

The coatroom and lockers are located on the first floor. Your coat may not be carried through the galleries. Please plan on wearing your coat or leave it in the coatroom.

Backpacks, packages, diaper bags, and laptop bags smaller than 11 x 15 inches may be carried in the galleries. Backpacks may be carried by hand or worn on the front.

## Strollers & Infant Carriers

Lightweight umbrella strollers and front infant carriers may be taken throughout the museum.

## Diaper Changing Stations

Diaper changing stations are available on both the first and second floors of the museum.

## Smoking and Vaping

The museum is a smoke-free facility. Smoking and vaping are not permitted anywhere in the museum or on the campus.

## Protecting the Artwork

The intimate house setting allows visitors to see art and furnishings close up. Please help preserve the house and collection for future generations by remembering not to touch the works of art, furnishings, or window treatments. Touching leaves traces of natural oils and acids that can damage artworks, fabrics, and other surfaces.

## Sketching with Pencils

You are welcome to sketch in the galleries using graphite pencils and drawing boards, clipboards, and sketch pads that do not exceed 15 x 16 inches. Please do not use pens, markers, crayons, charcoals, colored pencils, chalks, or pastels.

## Photography/Video Recording

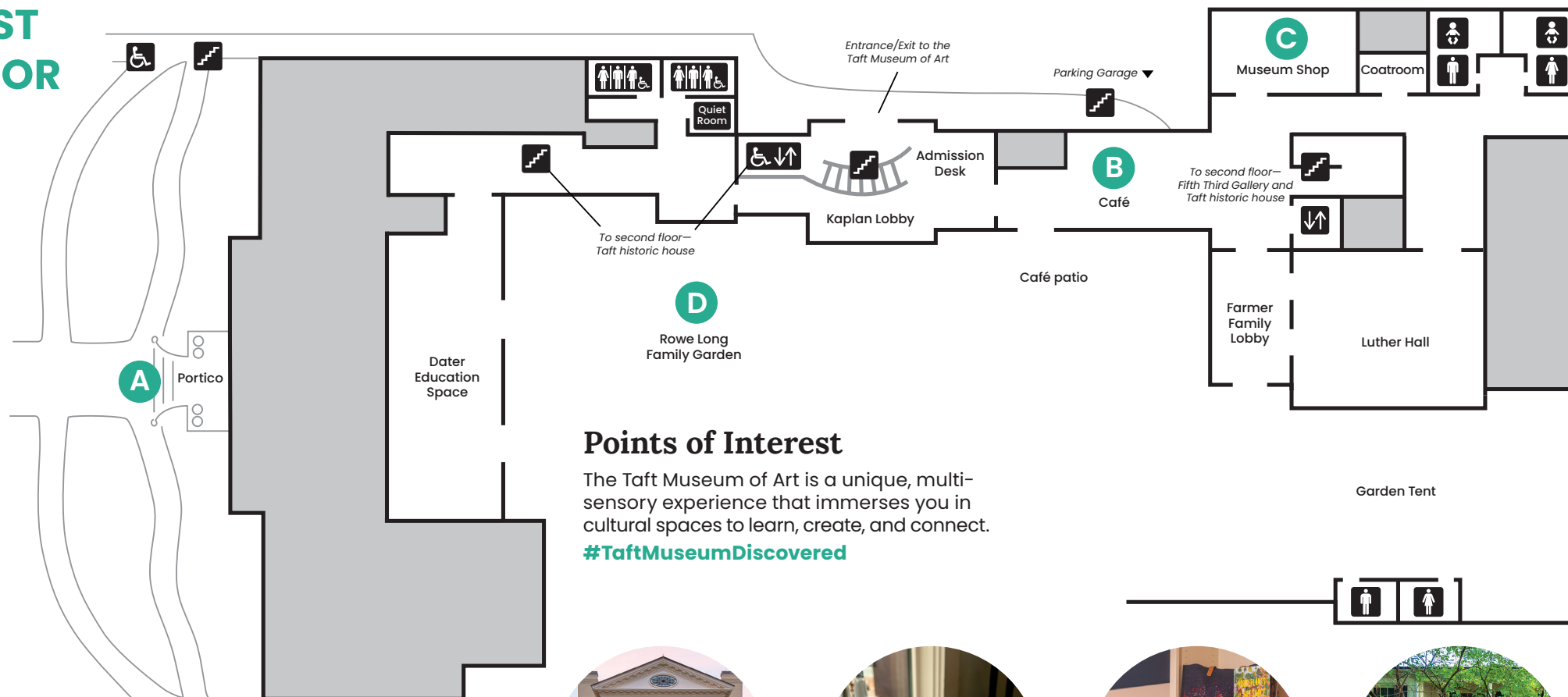
Non-flash personal photography and video in the galleries are encouraged. Any restrictions on photography will be clearly identified. Video cameras, tripods, monopods, and selfie sticks may not be taken into the galleries.

## Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the first floor of the museum, including the café, Luther Hall, Rowe Long Family Garden, and patio.

For more information, visit [taftmuseum.org/Visit](https://taftmuseum.org/Visit). If you have any questions or need accommodations during your visit, the Visitor Experience team is ready to help!

# FIRST FLOOR



## Points of Interest

The Taft Museum of Art is a unique, multi-sensory experience that immerses you in cultural spaces to learn, create, and connect.

[#TaftMuseumDiscovered](#)

## Map Key



Restrooms



Diaper Changing Station



Wheelchair Accessible Area



Wheelchair Accessible Lift  
(please ask for assistance)



Elevator



Stairs



A

### PORTICO

This stately porch flanked by columns recalls ancient Greek and Roman temples. View this grand and architecturally significant feature by exiting the museum at admissions and proceeding to the front lawn, where William Howard Taft accepted his party's nomination for US president in 1908.



B

### CAFÉ

Unwind and dine in the café and on the patio with artfully prepared meals inspired by the exhibitions and collections, including delicious vegetarian and vegan options.



C

### MUSEUM SHOP

Choose from books, stationery, jewelry, and handcrafted gifts rotated seasonally—there are always new ways to bring the museum home with you!

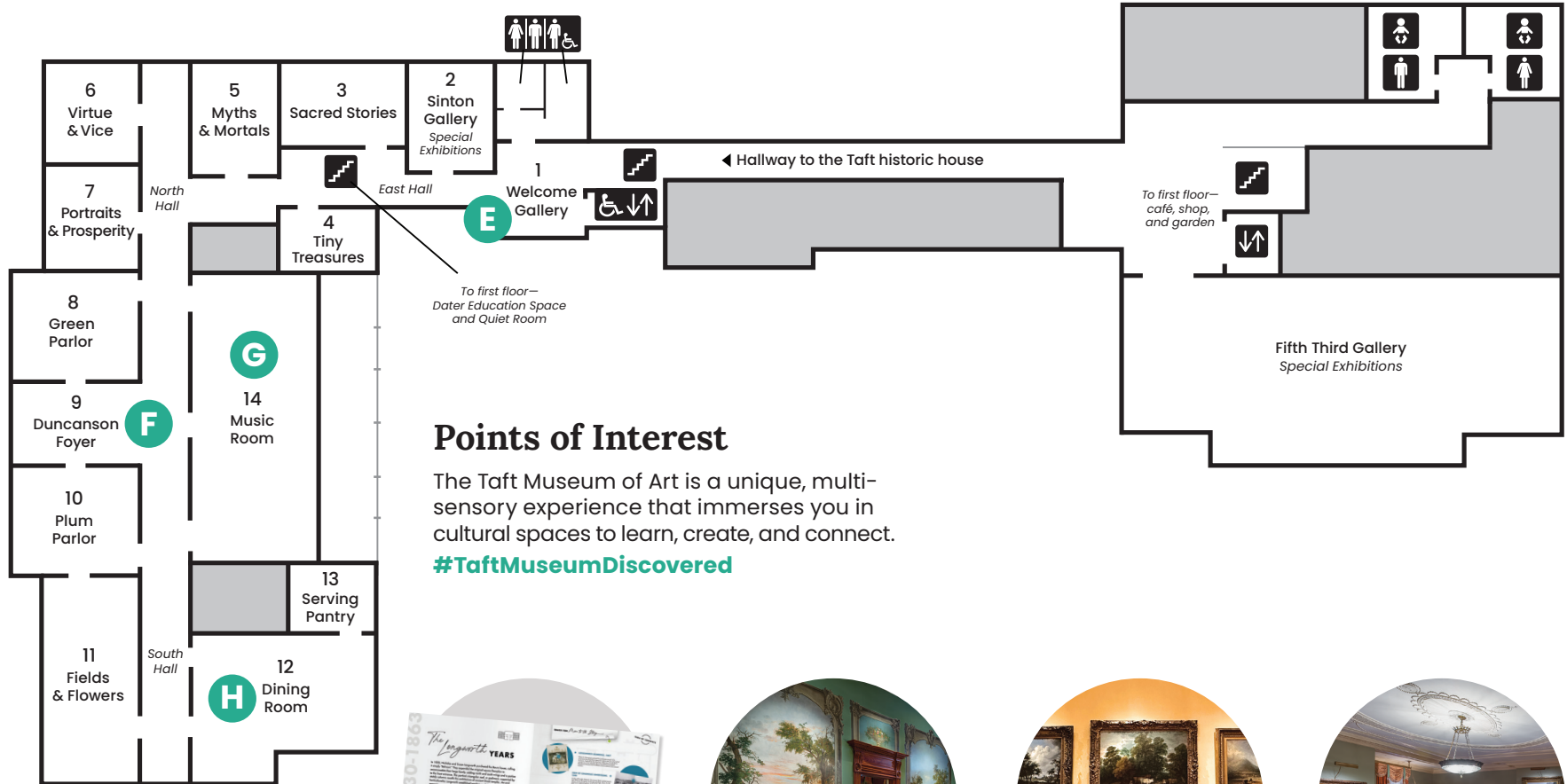


D

### ROWE LONG FAMILY GARDEN

Explore this urban paradise with a treat from the café, wander the shaded pathways, and soak in nature's own creations. From this view, you can also imagine the ornamental garden that Martin Baum, the house's first resident, developed on the site even before he built his house here.

# SECOND FLOOR



## Map Key



Restrooms



Diaper Changing Station



Wheelchair Accessible Area



Wheelchair Accessible Lift  
(please ask for assistance)



Elevator



Stairs

SEASON FUNDERS  
**arts wave**  
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

The H.B., E.W. and F.R.  
Luther Charitable  
Foundation, Fifth Third  
Bank, N.A., Trustee

OPERATING SUPPORT

**Ohio Arts COUNCIL**

This project is supported  
in part by an award from the  
National Endowment for the Arts.

FREE MONDAYS

FREE SUNDAYS

**Art Bridges**  
Foundation

ACCESS  
FOR ALL

**WS** Western & Southern  
Financial Group

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[#TaftMuseumDiscovered](#)



### WELCOME GALLERY

Explore the fascinating history of the Taft historic house and its residents by beginning your journey into the museum's galleries here! You can also explore an interactive, digital book to investigate the people, documents, and art associated with the home's past and take a quiz to match yourself with a work in the collection.



### DUNCANSON FOYER

Discover the spectacular murals created by Robert S. Duncanson between 1850 and 1852 as a commission for former resident Nicholas Longworth. Duncanson painted these eight monumental landscapes directly on the plaster walls of what was once the entry hall to Longworth's home.



### MUSIC ROOM

This gallery, the museum's largest, showcases some of the most significant paintings, porcelains, and furniture in the museum's collection. Charles and Anna Taft, whose portraits hang above the mantels, married in this room in 1873 and entertained many guests here.



### DINING ROOM

Step back in time as you enter what was once Charles and Anna Taft's dining room. French landscape paintings surround an impressive mahogany dining table, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere.