Photography and Videography Policies

Culture & Heritage Museums (CHM) allows photography at all sites for private, non-commercial use only. Any photos taken are not to be published, sold, reproduced, distributed, or otherwise commercially exploited in any manner without CHM’s written consent.

If you post any of your private pictures on social media, please tag us so we can see them too. We love to keep in touch with our visitors!

Facebook
@CHMuseums
@MuseumOfYorkCounty
@HistoricBrattonsville
@MainStreetChildrensMuseum
@MccelveyCenter
@HightowerHall

Instagram
@museumofyorkcounty
@historicbrattonsville
@mainstreetchildrensmuseum
@mccelveycenter

Twitter
@CHMuseums
@MuseumOfYC
@Brattonsville
@MSCMuseum

TikTok
@chmuseums

Commercial and Professional Photo Policies:
CHM allows the grounds of their sites to be used for commercial and professional photography and filming, under CHM staff supervision. There is no charge for this provision when rental space has been purchased and scheduled with the Manager of Retail Services. This fee is due at the signing of the Photographer/Client Indemnification Agreement. Hours of operation vary per CHM site, which may impact when photoshoots can occur. An additional fee may be charged for sessions occurring outside of regular business hours. CHM reserves the right to photograph photographic sessions for publicity, documentation, and promotion.

Exhibit and Artifact Photography: CHM allows visitors to take private, non-commercial photos of exhibits and artifacts as a way to remember their visit. Exhibit and artifacts photos, including archival materials, for commercial and research use are available upon request, for a fee of $25 per image. The requestor will be required to fill out a Photo Use Agreement that stipulates how the photos are to be used and credited. To request exhibit or artifact photos for commercial or research purposes, please email the Collections Department at Collections@chmuseums.org. CHM reserves the right to deny an artifact photo request if the object is unavailable or unstable for photography.

Exterior Photography: Any “staged” exterior photography using professional equipment, props, lighting, filters, etc. by individuals or professional photographers must be contracted as a paid photography rental event. Any unauthorized photographer must turn over any and all images or videos over to CHM. CHM will under no circumstances allow historic farm animals on site to be exploited in any photo shoot.

Video: CHM may be rented to agencies and professional film crews for video, film and TV commercial production. Commercial production companies may shoot pre-determined structures and exteriors for TV commercials, promotional videos, documentaries, and other materials for a single use by their client. Under no circumstances will CHM allow video to be taken and used by the photographer, agent or agency to make a profit either directly or indirectly. CHM will under no circumstances allow historic farm animals on site to be exploited in any video production. Location filming will be negotiated with the Manager of Retail Services. Prices vary and are based on a number of different factors associated with the shoot.

Wedding and Bridal Photography: Most wedding rental packages at CHM venues include provisions for bridal or engagement photography included in the packages. Bridal and engagement photos may also be shot inside HighTower Hall without having the wedding ceremony or reception at the site. The photographer will be charged the commercial photography rate for interior shots ($150 for 2 hours) and may also rent the Bridal Suite or additional spaces for an additional charge, if available. Bridal Portrait Sessions extending beyond

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2 hours, a $50 per hour fee will be accessed. After hour rates may also apply.

To ensure CHM’s historic buildings and antique furniture are not damaged, photographers and renters are prohibited from moving any of CHM’s furniture and décor that are in the rental spaces. Photographers and their equipment are prohibited from leaning or sliding on any walls of historic buildings. Additionally, photographers are prohibited from placing any lighting fixtures too close to the walls or furniture to prevent heat damage. If these rules are not followed and damage to the antique furniture or historic buildings occurs, the photograph or renter will be charged for restoration or replacement.

CHM often shoots its own event photography at weddings and rental events to help promote the organization. By renting a facility at CHM, the renter is providing general approval for CHM to shoot these photos without people (room set-up, florals, etc.). The renter may be asked for permission to shoot promotional photos of the people at the event for CHM promotional materials. The renter’s approval will also serve as a release to photograph the guests. If a guest objects to their photograph being used in a print piece, CHM will stop using the photo, but will maintain a copy in the CHM photo archives for historical documentation.

Other Photographic Policies and Disclosures:

A) Visitors: Purposefully photographing or recording CHM visitors at any CHM site is prohibited without their explicit consent. Consideration to visitors on the property must be maintained. Any interpretive programs that may occur during your photographic session cannot be interrupted and moving of any object on the property is strictly prohibited.

B) Volunteers: CHM Volunteers asked to take photographs at CHM sites or events are prohibited from publishing, selling, reproducing, distributing, or otherwise commercially exploiting the images in any manner without CHM’s written consent.

C) Indemnification: Photographer understands and agrees that Culture & Heritage Museums, its agents, assigns, and employees are not responsible for any claims, judgments, causes of actions, or damages arising out of or relating to the granting of this permission to photograph CHM sites, people, and structures. The photographer individually and on behalf of the photo client hereby holds Culture & Heritage Museums, its agents, assigns and employees harmless from any such claims and agrees to indemnify same in the event of any claim, judgment, or action. This agreement shall apply to all claims, which are made in the future by any third party as a result of this permission.

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