SISKIN MUSEUM OF RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS

- Founded by Mose and Garrison Siskin -



History

In 1942, Garrison Siskin seriously injured his leg when stepping onto a train. Hospitalized and in severe pain, Garrison, a deeply religious man, prayed to God that if his life and leg were spared, he would dedicate himself to helping those in need. God answered Garrison's prayer, and his brother Mose joined him in his vow. The fulfillment of this promise resulted in a tradition of generosity which still is seen today through a variety of programs and services for children, families and professionals that Mose and Garrison pioneered. The Siskin brothers, who were members of the Jewish faith, believed that if you could understand a person's religious views, you could know that person more fully. Although Mose and Garrison died more than 30 years ago, their belief in preserving and appreciating the many religions of the world lives on in the Siskin Museum of Religious Artifacts.

About the Collection

The Siskin brothers commissioned Rabbi Harris Swift to collect the artifacts that would fill the museum. Through the 1950s, Rabbi Swift made a series of trips to Europe to locate and purchase rare religious pieces, particularly those from Judaism. As a rabbi in England during World War II, Swift was influential in helping save and resettle Jewish refugees from Europe, including a number of antique collectors and dealers. Items recovered on his later trips became the core of the museum's collection. The Siskin Museum of Religious Artifacts contains over 400 religious pieces, 247 Judaic and 140 Christian, ranging from the 16th to the 20th century. Other religions and philosophies represented in the museum are Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, and others.

To learn more about Mose and Garrison Siskin and our Mission visit siskin.org





How to Enjoy The Collection

- 1) Sign in at the Carter Street lobby desk.
- 2) Visit the Apple Store or any other approved app store and download a QR reader app to your phone.

What is a QR?

A QR (Quick Response) is a type of barcode that you can scan with an app on your phone that will link you to information on our website, siskin.org.

A QR looks like this:

If you downloaded a QR app, you can test it here.

You will find QRs throughout the museum that when utilized correctly will give you more information about each unique piece.

Although informative, the QR reader is not necessary to enjoy the museum.

3) Once you have completed your tour, please take moment to watch the video at the end of the tour. (If the video is not functioning, please ask for assistance.)

Scheduling A Group Tour

To schedule a museum tour with a group, organization, or school please make a reservation via the information below.

Phone: 423.648.1700

Museum Hours: Mon. - Fri. | 9:00AM - 4:00PM | CLOSED Sat. & Sun.



SERVING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES SINCE 1950