

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

FOURTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • 737-4215 extension 511

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY SETS UP

FREE PASS SYSTEM FOR ALEXANDER SHOW

WASHINGTON, D. C. October 30, 1980. During crowded times the National Gallery of Art is issuing free passes for admission to The Search for Alexander exhibition, the major international loan of Greek art from the era of Alexander the Great (356-323 B. C.), making its U. S. premiere at the National Gallery November 16 through April 5, 1981, before traveling to Chicago, Boston, and San Francisco.

The pass system will be used when needed to minimize the length of time visitors must wait in line, and to avoid overcrowding in the exhibition.

The Gallery's hours, and those of the special exhibition, are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 noon to 9 p.m. The Gallery is closed only Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Individuals may obtain free passes for the current day only on a first-come, first-served basis. The passes allow admission to the exhibition during designated half-hour intervals. They will be distributed at the entrance to the show, on the concourse level of the East Building on an as-needed basis.

The Gallery staff will not give tours of the exhibition during regular visiting hours. However, a forty-five minute recorded tour of the exhibition is available at the entrance for a nominal fee and the education department will present from time to time orientation lectures on the

(more)

exhibition in the East Building Auditorium.

Groups of twenty or more may reserve passes in advance by telephone (202) 737-4215, ext. 272, or by mail from the Gallery's education department. Special group rates for the recorded tour can also be secured.

Guided tours, lasting one hour, are being conducted through the exhibition for groups of twenty or more early in the mornings. These tours have, however, already been completely booked through the Washington closing April 5.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director (Information Officer) or Pamela J. Driscoll, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565, area code 202, 737-4215, ext. 511.