

## MMA's Incorporating Purpose vs. Current Purpose

The MMA was envisioned as an institution for public education with a founding purpose of “advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and, to that end, of **furnishing popular instruction” to New Yorkers**. City leaders should not authorize the MMA's current "global purpose" **at the expense of New Yorkers' right to free access and popular instruction**, nor at the expense of the **MMA's obligation to bolster** our city's education system, especially considering New Yorkers' substantive investment in MMA in compliance with the terms of our [PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP](#) [PPP].

The juxtaposition of MMA's initial purpose versus its current purpose makes clear that New York City's Office of the Mayor must have controlling laws and contracts codified so that the City's oversight agencies can ensure that the policies and practices that MMA and the other PEC institutions put in place are compliant [see [PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP](#), [PARK INSTITUTIONS](#) and [LAWS](#).]

Incorporating Purpose of the MMA	Current Purpose of MMA
<p>See: <a href="#">Chapter 197 of the New York State Laws of 1870</a></p> <p>“Sec. 1 ... The Metropolitan Museum of Art to be <b>located in the City of New York</b>, for the <b>purpose of establishing and maintaining in said city a Museum and library of art</b>, of encouraging and developing the study of the fine arts, and the <b>application of arts to manufactures and practical life</b>, or advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and, to that end, <b>of furnishing popular instruction and recreation.</b>” [emphasis added]</p>	<p>See: <a href="#">About MMA</a></p> <p>“The Metropolitan Museum of Art <b>collects, studies, conserves, and presents</b> significant works of art across all times and cultures in order <b>to connect people to creativity, knowledge, and ideas.</b>” [emphasis added]</p>