

**News Release
Public Information
Department**

June 2003

NOTE: As a result of an anticipated major reduction in funding of operating costs for the coming fiscal year, the Brooklyn Museum of Art will be closed to the public from August 4 through August 19, 2003

Brooklyn Museum of Art is Borough's Only Wireless Internet Site and City's Only Wireless Museum

Visitors to the Brooklyn Museum of Art will now be able to use laptops or handheld devices to browse the Internet, send e-mail, or download music, without plugging in to a connection, thanks to new broadband wireless technology dubbed BMA Public Wireless.

BMA Public Wireless, which is being installed in phases, will eventually allow free wireless Internet access from the steps of the Museum's new front entrance and public pavilion that will open in April 2004. Areas in or near the Museum that are already set up for wireless Internet access are the Sculpture Garden, Beaux-Arts Court, the Hall of the Americas, and the Café.

The Brooklyn Museum of Art is the first institution in the borough, and the only museum in the city, to offer Wireless Fidelity, or Wi-Fi. Bryant Park and Battery Park in Manhattan have offered the service for some time, as have many upscale office and apartment buildings.

In addition to allowing visitors and employees to surf the Internet, BMA Public Wireless also provides access to the Museum's Web site and other network-based content. For example, the information available on stationary kiosks in the galleries of the Museum's permanent exhibition *Egypt Reborn: Art For Eternity* can now be viewed on a laptop or handheld device anywhere in the building.

Brooklyn Museum of Art

page 2

Future uses envisioned for BMA Public Wireless include real-time Museum information, on-line chats, and self-guided tours.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$6; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$3. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. **Bus:** B71, B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.