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A Tribute to Honorary Trustee Dorothy McIlvain Scott, 1912–2011

September 2012

Dorothy McIlvain Scott began visiting the BMA as a child with her mother, Jane Elizabeth McIlvain Scott, and she remained deeply involved with the Museum, serving as a Trustee for 35 years, up to her death at age 99 in November of 2011. Her early experience helped forge a belief in the importance of art in shaping young minds.

In 2007, she pledged a gift of \$10 million to support the Museum's American art program. "She saw that donation not simply as a legacy for the Museum, but as an investment in the vibrancy of our city and region," remembered Director Doreen Bolger. In 2014, the BMA will debut the newly renovated Dorothy McIlvain Scott Wing with a beautiful and innovative presentation of American art. With her mother, Miss Scott began collecting American decorative arts in the 1940s, and she shared that passion as a member of the Friends of the American Wing, which supports the study, presentation, and growth of the BMA's important collections of decorative arts and American painting and sculpture.

Frederick Singley Koontz, Chair of the BMA's Board of Trustees, knew Miss Scott and her mother well. He said, "She was involved with many organizations. Her interests were very



With quiet generosity and unflagging energy, Miss Scott had an enormous impact on the BMA.

eclectic—from The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing to the BSO, the Walters Art Museum, and the Maryland Historical Society. The thing that impressed me the most was that so much of her philanthropy was anonymous. She didn't like the spotlight. She was a devoted Member of the Museum, a dedicated Trustee, and one of its great philanthropists."

"She was a grand lady, simply one in a million."

—Frederick Koontz