





## *The Athenaeum Membership Agreement*

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**W**e welcome your request for membership to The Athenaeum. While your application is being processed, we encourage you to read the following information that will help you get acquainted with your Club. For more information please visit our website: <http://athenaeum.caltech.edu>.

### ***ABOUT YOUR APPLICATION***

Membership is open to faculty, benefit-based staff at the Caltech campus and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Palomar Observatory, and benefit-based staff at the Huntington Library and Art Gallery; Caltech graduate students and undergraduate seniors who are at least 21 years or older; Caltech alumni; Caltech/JPL retirees; widows or widowers of members of long standing; and Caltech trustees and associates.

**The applications approval process may take up to two weeks for verification.** Please refrain from using Athenaeum services, unless you are the guest of a member, until you receive approval of your membership.

### ***YOU AS A MEMBER***

Only you and your spouse are permitted to sign for services at The Athenaeum. You are entitled to bring guests. However, you must be present to sign for the services. You may find it necessary on occasion for your guests to receive Athenaeum services without your presence. Advanced arrangements must be made to accommodate this request by calling the General Manager.

### ***WHEN AT THE CLUB***

*You will be asked to sign a chit when using the dining or bar areas. Please sign and print your name on each chit. For billing accuracy, it is vital that you include your member number when signing chits.*

We do request that proper attire be worn when dining or attending functions at the Club. **We request our members and their guests to refrain from wearing shorts, denim, hats, exercise clothing, flip-flop/thong sandals, and t-shirts.** Please use your best judgment in this regard.

### ***MONTHLY MEMBER STATEMENTS***

Your Athenaeum services and monthly membership dues are billed at the end of each month. Your membership classification as established by The Athenaeum Board of Governors determines the amount of your dues. Your original signed chits will accompany your monthly statement. Payment is expected within 30 days upon receipt of the statement. It is not the intent of The Athenaeum to provide long-term credit or "revolving charge" privileges. Past due balances will be assessed a finance charge. Nonpayment may lead to suspension of your member privileges, and ultimately, may result in the termination of your membership.

In accordance with IRS and State of California regulations governing private clubs, The Athenaeum only accepts payments from member's personal funds. Credits cards, two-party and business checks cannot be accepted.

### ***CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP***

*If your relationship to the Institute changes due to graduation, transfer to a new position at Caltech or JPL, promotion, retirement, termination of employment, etc., please notify The Athenaeum of this change as it may affect your membership type or your membership eligibility. Please do so in writing at least 30 days before the effective date.*

If you are no longer employed or affiliated with Caltech/JPL, your membership will become inactive. However, if you retire with either Caltech or JPL and have been a member, you can maintain your membership. If the member, who is affiliated with Caltech/JPL, passes away, the surviving spouse may still maintain the membership as long as the membership is current and active.

### ***VOLUNTARY TERMINATION***

**If you wish to resign, please do so in writing at least 30 days before the effective date.** If your notice of resignation is not received, billing will continue and dues will be assessed.



## The Athenaeum Fact Sheet

The Athenaeum is a membership club that first opened its doors on the campus of the California Institute of Technology in 1930. The club has grown with the Institute but remains faithful to the vision of its founders, whose purpose was to promote a social, cultural, and intellectual exchange.

### History

In ancient Greece, the word “Athenaeum” referred to buildings dedicated to Athena, the goddess of wisdom, and in particular, a temple in Athens where poets, philosophers, and orators gathered to read and discuss their work.

As early as 1921, George Ellery Hale, renowned astronomer, Caltech Trustee, and Director of Mount Wilson Observatory, envisioned a club modeled after The Athenaeum in London.

In 1929, Mr. and Mrs. Allan C. Balch presented the Institute with a gift of stocks to establish the club. Those stocks were converted to \$500,000 in cash just before the stock market crash to build The Athenaeum. The style of The Athenaeum was known as the “California style” of architecture. The Athenaeum was designed by Gordon B. Kaufmann, who freely interpreted the Mediterranean style adapted to the climate and lifestyle of Southern California.

### Governance

The Athenaeum is an unincorporated association.

Its governing structure includes:

- ☞ *Board of Governors*  
Responsible for setting policy for The Athenaeum.
- ☞ *The House Committee*  
Responsible for the enforcement of policy as authorized by the Board of Governors.
- ☞ *Committees*  
Sub-committees of the House Committee include the Design Review, Finance, Food, Membership, and Wine.

### Facilities & Services

#### ☞ *Banquet*

The Athenaeum has private rooms available for all kinds of social functions including private parties, birthday parties, receptions, bar/bat mitzvahs, weddings, quinceañeras, bridal and baby showers, board meetings and retreats, and any special occasion. The Athenaeum has well-trained team members to assist in every detail of planning.

*Private Events: (626) 395-8263 or -8280*

#### ☞ *Dining & Bar Service*

The Main Dining Room is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner Monday through Friday. Wednesday dinner is buffet night with prime rib and other appetizing selections. Reservations are recommended for lunch and dinner.

Informal dining is available in the Rath al Fresco Monday through Friday during the summer.

*Reservations: (626) 395-8282*

#### ☞ *Guest Rooms*

The Athenaeum has twenty-four guest rooms and four suites available to members and their guests.

*Reservations: (626) 395-8200*

#### ☞ *Tennis*

Three lighted tennis courts are available daily. Advance reservations are required.

*Front Desk: (626) 395-8200*

#### ☞ *Special Club Events*

The Athenaeum hosts special club events such as winemaker dinners and guest chefs night. Events are open to all members and their guests. Family events include brunches, themed dinners, holiday tea, cooking classes, and barbecues.

*Information and Reservations for Special Events: (626) 395-8282*

#### ☞ *Reciprocal Privileges*

The Athenaeum has reciprocal privileges with private and faculty clubs, both local and international. A complete listing of these local and international clubs is available at the Front Desk, by calling Membership Services, or on our website under the Membership tab.

*Front Desk & Membership:  
(626) 395-8200*

### Membership

Membership to The Athenaeum is open to Caltech faculty, staff, alumni, graduate students & undergraduate seniors 21 or older; staff at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory; staff at the Huntington Library and Art Gallery; and Caltech Associates.

### Monthly Newsletter

*The Update*, a monthly newsletter is emailed or mailed to all members and contains information about special events hosted by the Club, news from the House Committee or the Board of Governors, and special announcements regarding Club activities.

### Website

<http://athenaeum.caltech.edu>