More European Museums Turning to U.S.-Style Fundraising

With European governments’ austerity measures cutting into cultural budgets, major art museums abroad are increasingly seeking to tap private philanthropy along the American model writes, *The New York Times* as part of a package of articles on trends in the museum world.

The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam has expanded its development office from three employees in 2009 to 15 today as the government’s share of its budget has dropped from 70 percent to 40 percent in recent years. Amigos del Museo del Prado, a Spanish foundation supporting Madrid’s Prado Museum, is establishing a nonprofit U.S. wing so its American donors can get tax breaks for their gifts.

Officials from both institutions as well as museums in Italy and Greece will attend a seminar next month in New York on "The Art and Science of the American Fundraising Model." The event is held annually by the King Baudouin Foundation United States, which helps European and African nonprofits attract U.S. donors.

The *Times*’s museum section also includes an article on how the Speed Museum in Louisville, Ky., is working to diversify its Boards of Trustees and Governors.