



Welcome Guide for Self-Guided School Tours

Thank you for your scheduling a self-guided School Tour experience.

The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts is dedicated to providing engaging and inspiring educational opportunities for student of all ages and we look forward to welcoming your group to the Museum.

This guide provides group leaders with helpful information including pre-visit information to prepare your group, helpful ideas for your visit, transportation and parking information, and post-visit engagements. In addition, there are informational pages to be shared with chaperones and bus drivers.

If you have any additional questions about your School Tour, please reach out to Guest Services at GroupRequests@arkmfa.org.

FOR EDUCATORS

Museum Manners and General Museum Policies

- To prepare your students for their visit to the Museum, please share the following expectations with them so that they can help us preserve the art for generations to come.
 - Explore the art with your eyes, please do not touch.
 - Walk, don't run. Be mindful of your surroundings.
 - Be curious and engaged. Don't be afraid to ask questions.
 - No food or beverages, including gum, are permitted in the galleries.
 - Artists are welcome to sketch and write in our galleries using pencils only.
 - Feel free to take photos and selfies but please do not use flash photography, tripods, or selfie sticks.
 - Please leave large bags, backpacks, umbrellas, and personal items on the bus as they are not permitted in the galleries. (If items are brought into the Museum, they can be left at one of our complimentary bag checks.)
- Additionally, a [School Tour Social Narrative](#) is available to help prepare students for their visit.

What to Expect During your Visit

- Buses and other transport vehicles should use the Crescent Drive off Ninth Street for drop-offs at the Courtyard Entrance of the building. (The Courtyard Entrance is beyond the large second-story glass room, the Cultural Living Room, facing Ninth Street and is pictured on the first page. Please review the included map for more details.)
- Group Leaders are asked to check in at the Guest Services Desk, just inside the Courtyard entrance, upon arrival.
- To make movement throughout the Museum and galleries easier for larger groups, students should be divided into groups of no more than fifteen (15) students. At least two (2) chaperones should accompany each small group.
- Please review the Museum Manners with the full group before the small groups break off to experience the museum.

- If time allows, groups may have lunch in MacArthur Park, visit MacArthur Military Museum next door, or enjoy the new ADA accessible playground located southeast of the building beyond the MacArthur Military Museum. *Please note, we cannot accommodate lunch space for school groups within the Museum.*
- Buses should return to the Crescent Drive to pick up school groups from the Courtyard Entrance facing Ninth Street.

Engagement Resources

- To help you plan and coordinate your group's self-guided experience please consider the following:
 - AMFA has 3 main gallery spaces with seven centuries of art on view. See fresh rotations of the AMFA Foundation's permanent collection and compelling temporary exhibitions in the Harriet and Warren Stephens Galleries on Level 2. The Robyn and John Horn Gallery located within the Windgate Art School on Lower Level features engaging temporary exhibitions. To explore what's on view, please visit [Art & Artists | AMFA \(arkmfa.org\)](https://www.arkmfa.org)
 - The building and landscaping are also works of art to explore. Additional art works can be found throughout the building including the Atrium and outdoor sculptures found throughout the grounds. Learn about the art, architecture, and landscape with AMFA audio tours, [guide.arkmfa.org](https://www.arkmfa.org/guide).
 - Focused activities help students to remain engaged throughout their visit and supports their learning through art and creativity. Consider bringing your own activity or engagement to structure the self-guided experience. Or incorporate some questions as your group explores to help students build connections and have opportunities to collaborate and communicate ideas.

For Example:

- What is the story of this artwork?
- If you could ask the artist one question, what would it be?
- Does reading the title of an artwork change the way you think about the artwork? If you could rename the artwork, what would you call it?
- If you could have a conversation with an artwork, what would you discuss?
- If you could have one artwork to take home, which would you choose? Why?
- What elements or principles of art do you see in this artwork?
 - Elements: Color, Line, Shape, Form, Texture, Space, Value
 - Principles: Balance, Rhythm, Pattern, Emphasis, Contrast, Unity, and Movement

Additional Information

- Tour Changes or Cancellations
 - Cancellations or changes should be communicated to Guest Services at GroupRequests@arkmfa.org.
 - You will receive an email reminder prior to your visit. Please make sure to confirm the final number of students and chaperones that will be attending your scheduled self-guided School Tour to help the Museum best support your group.
- Chaperone Guidelines
 - Please share the “For Chaperones” page of this document with your chaperones prior to your School Tour.
 - There must be at least two (2) chaperones for every fifteen (15) students.
 - Chaperones must stay with their group throughout the tour.
- Transportation and Parking
 - Please share the “For Bus Drivers” page of this document with your bus operator prior to your self-guided School Tour.
- Accessibility
 - The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts is committed to creating an inclusive community space for everyone. Please let the Museum know prior to your visit about accessibility needs including wheelchairs, sensory bags, and more.
- Emergency
 - In case of emergency, notify the nearest security officer or call 501-396-0329. If it is a matter of life and death, call 911 immediately.
- Additional Links
 - To discover additional resources and programs for educators and students, please visit [Programs For Schools | AMFA \(arkmfa.org\)](https://www.arkmfa.org/programs-for-schools).
- After your Visit
 - Students have more meaningful School Tours when they discuss their experiences before and after the visit. Our [post-engagement reflection activities](#) help continue the conversation started at the Museum.

FOR CHAPERONES

Chaperone Guidelines

- Chaperones must stay with the school group throughout the School Tour.
- While on the self-guided School Tour:
 - Please ensure that you and your small group of students stay together.
 - Encourage students to follow the Museum Manners, participate in the School Tour activities, and ask questions!
 - Remember that when chaperones are engaged with the group activities (listening, putting away their cell phones, asking questions, and sitting with the students), students are more inclined to remain engaged.

Museum Manners and General Museum Policies

- Please make sure students adhere to the following manners and policies so that they can help us preserve the art for generations to come.
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Emergency

- In case of emergency, notify the nearest security officer or call 501-396-0329. If it is a matter of life and death, call 911 immediately.

FOR BUS DRIVERS

Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts Transportation and Parking

Our address is 501 East Ninth Street, Little Rock AR, 72202.

Arrival

- Buses should enter the Crescent Drive on Ninth Street, near the corner of Commerce Street, and pull up to the Courtyard Entrance.
- Once everyone is off the bus, buses should exit the Crescent Drive and find parking around MacArthur Park.

Parking

- Please use the parking image to find available bus parking options highlighted in red.
- Vans and other standard size vehicles can park along the Crescent Drive and connect with Guest Services through the Courtyard Entrance.
- Additional parking is located on the south side of the Museum; however, we ask all School Tour groups enter through the Courtyard Entrance on the north side of the Museum.
 - Groups coming to see a Children's Theater performance are requested to use the Park Entrance on the south side of the Museum.

Pick-Up

- Buses should return to the Courtyard Entrance along the Crescent Drive to pick up their group at the end of their visit.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Location



Bus Parking Options

