Thank you for booking a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. In this packet you will find resources designed to help you, your chaperones, and your students prepare for their visit to the Museum.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Self-guided groups are welcome to explore the art collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston! The Museum values the expertise of the teacher in the galleries, and self-guided visits are perfect for teachers who want to lead their own tours of the Museum.

If I have questions before my visit, whom can I ask?
Contact the Museum at tours@mfah.org or 713-800-5363.

How much does my visit cost?
Self-guided visits are free for school groups with registration at least two weeks in advance. Admission fees apply to ticketed exhibitions.

How long will my visit last?
Self-guided tours are booked for one hour in the Museum within a specific timeframe, e.g., 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. School groups are welcome to continue exploring the Museum on their own after the tour.

What if our group is late or needs to cancel the visit?
In the event that you must cancel your visit, please contact tours@mfah.org or call 713-800-5363 as soon as possible.

How many chaperones should I bring?
One teacher per class, for up to 25 students, is required. We would recommend one chaperone per class. Chaperones receive free admission and must remain with their group for the entire visit. Please share the information regarding Museum guidelines with all chaperones before the visit.

Will students be able to work on an assignment during our visit?
Yes, please use pencils to write and sketch in the galleries.

Where can we eat lunch?
CULLEN SCULPTURE GARDEN
School groups may bring sack lunches in the Cullen Sculpture Garden, located across the street from the Museum. We do not have an alternate venue for lunch in the event of inclement weather.

MFA CAFÉ
Food and beverages are available for purchase at the MFA Café, located on the lower level of the Museum’s Audrey Jones Beck Building. If you plan to dine in the café, please notify the café one week in advance. If you would like to order a box lunch for carryout, please notify the café at least three business days in advance. Email info@mfacafe.com or call 713-521-4469 for more information. No outside food is permitted in the café.

Can we take photographs?
Video and still photography, without flash, is permitted at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, solely for private, noncommercial use, and only in Museum galleries that are devoted to its permanent collections, including the Lillie and Hugh Roy Cullen Sculpture Garden.

Will there be time to visit the Museum Shop?
Students are welcome to visit the MFA Shop at any point during their self-guided visit. Ten students accompanied by an adult chaperone may enter the shop at one time.
WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE MUSEUM

Arrival and Parking

DELAYS
Construction is now underway on the new Nancy and Rich Kinder Building, replacing the former surface lot. We ask that you plan accordingly as traffic from construction vehicles may impact your arrival time. Thank you for your support of the Museum’s Art Resource Tour for Schools Program during an exciting time for the Museum!

CHAPERONE PARKING
Parking is now available in a new underground facility at 5101 Montrose Boulevard, just north of Bissonnet, in addition to the Museum’s current parking garage at 1144 Binz. Please look for signage that will direct you to the entry off of Montrose.

BUS DROP-OFF AND PARKING
Buses may drop off at the Caroline Wiess Law Building, located at 1001 Bissonnet Street. Buses are not permitted to park in any Museum parking lots. Overflow parking is located at Hermann Park immediately past the Mecom Fountain. See Museum campus map on right. After parking buses, drivers are permitted to return to the Museum free of charge to join their school groups for the tour.

Check-In

SELF-GUIDED TOURS
Students should remain on the bus until the lead teacher has checked in with the guest services desk. At the desk, Museum staff will ask for the number of students and chaperones in the group and provide chaperone badges for the adults. After check-in, students may exit buses and line up single file to the right of the Museum entrance to prepare to begin the tour. If the school arrives early, they must wait for their scheduled tour time to enter.
Museum Guidelines
We hope that your Museum visit will be an enriching learning experience. Please help us keep everyone safe and engaged by reviewing the following guidelines with students and chaperones before your scheduled visit.

NOTES FOR EVERYONE

- Please do not touch the works of art. Help the Museum protect the art by looking closely with your eyes but refraining from touching art in the Museum and Sculpture Garden. Please avoid leaning on cases and walls in the galleries.
- Students should remain with their chaperones at all times.
- Food, drinks, and gum are not permitted inside the Museum galleries. If your group plans to have lunch in the Cullen Sculpture Garden, please leave the lunches on the bus until your scheduled lunch time.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS AND CHAPERONES

- We recommend that backpacks, heavy coats, and umbrellas remain on the bus. Groups are welcome to check these items into the coat check areas located in the lobby if needed; however this may impact the time available for your tour.
- Please wear the Museum chaperone badges while at the Museum. You will receive a chaperone badge during check-in.

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