

Pre K-12 School Group Tour Topics

Review the group tour topics below before making your reservation. Please note that all tours need to be scheduled at least **3 weeks** in advance.

Special Exhibition Tours

Bes Ben: The Mad Hatter of Chicago (Grades 9-12)

(April 20, 2018 – January 6, 2019)

Paul Textile and Fashion Arts Galleries

Limited to 30 visitors

One of America's most celebrated milliners, Benjamin B. Green-Field was Chicago's "Mad Hatter" for forty-nine years. With \$500 and the help of his sister Bessie (the Bes of Bes-Ben) he opened his millinery shop in 1919, and eventually expanded to 5 stores throughout the city. Bes-Ben hats were coveted by women of all ages, although only a few could afford them. Known for elaborate, humorous, flamboyant creations, Chicago's "Mad Hatter" left a remarkable and enthralling fashion legacy. Today his hats are regarded as captivating surrealistic works of art.

Sensual/Sexual/Social: The Photography of George Platt Lynes (Grades 9-12)

(September 30, 2018 – February 24, 2019)

Allen Whitehill Clowes Special Exhibition Gallery

Explore the legacy of visionary American photographer George Platt Lynes through this exhibition of photographs from the collection of the Kinsey Institute, Indiana University. Lynes' visionary work catapulted him to notoriety as a New-York-based commercial fashion and ballet photographer, but resulted in his drift from the spotlight when it was revealed that he photographed male nudes as well. Lynes also turned his lens on his social circle – the artistic and literary minds of the mid-20th century – who accepted him as a gay man during a period of harsh anti-LGBT laws in America. Learn about Lynes' groundbreaking work with lighting and darkroom manipulation and his personal passion, the male nude, considered taboo and illegal in the 1930s and '40s. ***Please note: Select artworks in this exhibition contain nudity.***

Interactive Dialogue

Closer Look Interactive Dialogue (Grades 9 – 12)

Limited to 2 groups of 20 students (40 total)

Participants in a Closer Look session will observe, question, and think more deeply about a selected artwork in an hour-long session which will focus on a single work of art. A museum educator serves as a facilitator for each encounter to enhance interactive dialogue, and provide additional information about the art or artist if the group discussion calls for interpretation. Students are encouraged to use their own thoughts, emotions and voices to participate in this

open-ended dialogue in order to develop enhanced understandings and share unique viewpoints.

STEM + Art = STEAM Tours (Grades K-12)

STEAM integrates art and design into STEM pursuits [Science-Technology-Engineering-ART-Math]. STEAM tours allow students to explore the IMA's collections with museum educators, learning directly from the objects about how artists create innovative solutions to complex problems. On STEAM tours, students will consider the artist's problem or challenge, how that problem was solved, and how the artist is similar to a designer, explorer or scientist in their process of innovation. Fewer objects will be viewed as part of this tour. In addition, students will be provided hands-on opportunities to work collaboratively in solving a creative challenge. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

VTS: Visual Thinking Strategies (Grades K-12)

Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) is a facilitated discussion method used to encourage careful looking, critical thinking, vocabulary development, and an understanding of multiple perspectives. The VTS tour focuses on a small number of carefully chosen works of art that cover various media, cultures and time periods. Led by a docent, visitors will hold in-depth group discussions that share ideas and explore artwork in a new way. The tour focuses on student observation and sharing and does not provide art historical information. For more information on this tour and VTS, contact the Coordinator of School and Group Services. VTS tours last 45 minutes.

Viewfinders (Grades K-5)

For Grades K-5, this program includes in-classroom lessons plus a field trip to the IMA at Newfields. For Grades 3-5, the field trip includes a docent-led tour using VTS techniques and an in-studio art making experience. Note: **2018-19 tours with the in-studio art making experience are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and some weeks may not be available**; these tours will last 90 minutes. Tours scheduled without the in-studio art making experience will last 45 minutes. Tours scheduled for Grades K-2 do not include the in-studio art making experience and will last 45 minutes.

Art-Making + Tour

Painting and Poetry: The Landscape (Grades 6-8)

Limit 40 students

Explore and experience landscapes around the IMA galleries. This unique tour combines both the visual arts and the language arts. The tour includes a guided gallery tour, in-gallery poetry writing and watercolor painting. Please note



that this tour is limited to groups of no more than 40 students and lasts 2 hours. There is a materials fee of \$3 per student. Payment is due upon arrival at Newfields.

Gallery Tours

First Look at Art (Preschool-K)

For the youngest visitors – an introduction to the museum experience and how art is made. This tour lasts 45 minutes.

Art Cart Option: For groups with 40 or fewer students, an Art Cart experience is offered as part of the tour. Touchable items have been gathered for the Art Cart specifically for these tours, and a docent will facilitate the presentation.

If you do not want to include the Art Cart, please be sure to indicate that on your tour request form.

Learning to Look at Art (Grades 1-3)

Students will discuss and compare different styles that artists use and will be introduced to art terms such as painting, sculpture, landscape, portrait, still life, shapes, color, line, texture, etc. This tour lasts 45 minutes.

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Creative Hoosiers (Grades 4-12)

Students will learn about Indiana artists, designers, poets and writers with a tour of art by and about some renowned creative Hoosiers. Many of the artists in the IMA's collection attended the Herron School of Art for their initial training. Some of the artists remained in Indiana all of their lives; many more spent time here and then continued their training and careers elsewhere. This tour may include stops in our American, Contemporary, Design and special exhibition galleries. This tour will last 60 minutes.

Focus: Faces (Grades K-12)

Students will observe and discuss how artists throughout history have represented faces—human and animal, real and imaginary. Students will see faces represented using a variety of techniques and in a variety of materials and discuss how faces are used to show emotion, tell stories and illustrate ideas. This tour may include portraits, faces depicted in sculpture, masks and more abstract works. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

Focus: Places (Grades K-12)

Students will explore the ideas surrounding “place” including interiors, natural settings, cityscapes, and seascapes. Students will compare and contrast how artists have explored, depicted and included the natural world in their art at different historical times and in different cultures, including viewpoint and perspective. Students will discover that not all artistic representations of nature are realistic—that artists may take liberties with the landscape to create a more visually successful image or one that tells a stronger story. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

Focus: Spaces (Grades K-12)

This tour will include two-dimensional depictions of space and will explore methods and materials of three-dimensional art from around the world, including Asia and Africa. With more recent art, the term sculpture became a label for almost any form of art activity other than painting. Students will see traditional sculpture and also become familiar with 3-D art forms, discuss various sculptural media and techniques in the galleries, and on the museum grounds—weather permitting. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

Nazi-Era Looted Art and Museums: Continuing the Work of the Monuments Men

Limited to 30 students, either advanced or upper level High School, who have undertaken in-depth study of WWII

Monuments men and women were museum and cultural professionals who helped the Allied military forces safeguard the art the Nazis stole and worked to return it once World War II came to an end. Art museums the world over continue their work by conducting provenance research, or research on the history of ownership of works in their collection. Students will learn about how some European paintings in the IMA’s collection are intertwined with looting during WWII and subsequent Allied efforts at restitution, and why research into the history of ownership is important in American art museums. This tour will last 60 minutes.

Spotlight: Africa (Grades K-12)

Limit 60 students

This tour will explore Africa - the world’s second-largest continent and the cradle of humankind. The arrangement of these works of art in the galleries highlights themes such as power, the importance of ancestors, and life transitions. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

African Art Cart Option: For groups with 40 or fewer students, an African Art Cart experience is offered as part of the tour. Touchable items have been gathered for the Art Cart specifically for these tours, and a docent will facilitate the presentation.



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Spotlight: America (Grades K-12)

This tour will ask students to think about “What is American about American art?” From ancient America through Modernism and Contemporary, works of art in a variety of media will be explored. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

Spotlight: Asia (Grades K-12)

Limit 60 students

This tour will introduce students to Chinese and Japanese art from the distant to the more recent past. Works of art in a variety of media will be explored. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

Asian Art Cart Option: For groups with 40 or fewer students, an Asian Art Cart experience is offered as part of the tour. Touchable items have been gathered for the Art Cart specifically for these tours, and a docent will facilitate the presentation.

If you do not want to include the Art Cart, please be sure to indicate that on your tour request form.

Spotlight: Contemporary (Grades K-12)

This tour will introduce students to the art of our time. The tour will include exploring works in a variety of media as well as a wide range of ideas and themes. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.



Spotlight: Design (Grades K – 12)

The IMA’s 11,000-square-foot Design Gallery is the largest collection gallery devoted to modern and contemporary design of any museum in the country. The tour will explore the design process – from inspiration to production. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.



Spotlight: Europe (Grades K-12)

This tour will explore the art of Europe from the Middle Ages through the middle of the 20th century. Works of art in a variety of media will be explored. This tour lasts 45 minutes for grades K-3; 60 minutes for grades 4-12.

Self-Guided Tours

Schools interested in structuring their own exploration of Newfields can schedule a self-guided tour of the IMA Galleries, The Garden and/or featured exhibitions.

Tours Outside of the Main Museum

Lilly House Tour (Grades 4-12)

Limit 40 students

Restored to its 1930s grandeur, the Lilly House, former home to businessman J.K. Lilly, Jr., is an exquisite example of a traditional country estate. The surrounding grounds offer breathtaking views and a newly restored historical, organic garden. Tour the home and step back into early 20th century Indiana history.



Outdoor Sculpture (Grades K-12)

The purpose of this tour is to view outdoor sculpture in the IMA's collection to understand what makes sculpture different from painting and to look at different materials and why artists choose them. Available April – October.

Tours for Students with Sight Impairment

Touch & Audio Descriptive Tour

The Touch & Audio Descriptive tour is an accessible tour program for students who are blind or possess low vision. These gallery tours are designed to give individuals of all ages and abilities – along with their family, companions or caregivers – the opportunity to engage in a discussion of works of art in our permanent collection through the use of touch and/or descriptive narration and participant interaction. For the touch portion of the tour, visitors are provided with nitrile gloves to wear as their touching is guided by docents who also describe the work of art. Note that this tour requires a 3-week notice.