Educational Resources and Services

AccessArts Education Kits
AccessArts Education Kits are units of study specially designed to fit the needs of the visually impaired student in the classroom. These kits include teaching materials to be used in the classroom to help extend interactive learning through museum education. Combining audio and visual aids, these kits introduce the Michener Art Museum and elements of the Museum’s collection to mainstreamed students and their fellow classmates. It provides an interactive classroom experience to a group of students with a variety of learning styles.

The kits feature interdisciplinary classroom enrichment activities and resource materials as well as pre- and post-visit study guides to the Museum that are intended to take learning beyond the traditional classroom setting and into the cultural community.

Each kit contains two audiocassettes, a unit of study, large-print activity sheets, hands-on interactives, one audiocassette player, and one set of headphones.

Kits are available for rental for $25/month for up to a two month period. A $50 security deposit is required at time of rental. Deposit is returned if no items are returned lost or damaged. Please contact the Education Department for registration and information at 215-340-9800, ext. 124.

Accessible Programs
Guided tours are led by trained Museum docents. Tours can be arranged to meet the visitors’ many interests and abilities.

Outreach digital/slide talks about the Museum’s history, collections and exhibitions are presented at your site by trained Museum docents and are available with three weeks notice.

Support for this brochure is provided jointly by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency, and VSA, an international, non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities through the arts for children and adults with disabilities.
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General Information
The James A. Michener Art Museum’s goal is to make art accessible to all. Encounters with original works of art promote life-long learning and create meaningful connections between visitors, artists and works of art. Visitors are encouraged to explore the Museum on their own or with a guided tour led by trained docents and Museum educators.

Experience learning about a work of art through various interpretive materials the Michener provides during guided visits.

Accessibility
For Visitors with Mobility Impairments
Parking for vehicles with a disability permit is available in a designated area on South Pine Street. Spaces are not reserved, but are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Accessible entrance is the main entrance of the Museum, which is equipped with automatic access doors.

Wheelchairs (manual) are available at the front desk at no charge on a first-come, first-served basis. If additional assistance is required, you may call the front desk and request assistance from the parking area to the entrance. All galleries and public spaces are wheelchair accessible. All floors are accessible by elevator.

Accessible restrooms and drinking fountain are available near the museum entrance. Baby-changing facilities are available in the restrooms.

Seating is provided in many galleries and public spaces.

For Visitors Who Are Deaf or Hearing Impaired
Assistive listening devices are available at no charge on a limited basis at the front desk.

Sign language interpretation is available by special request through the Education Department. Please call 215-340-9800, ext. 169 to schedule an interpretive program at least three weeks prior to your visit.

For Visitors with Visual Impairments
Braille, large-print, and touchable interpretations of paintings are available at the front desk, Family Education Center and the entrance to some galleries.

Visual description tours given by trained docents are available on request.

For Visitors with Cognitive or Communication Impairments
Tours are provided by trained staff and volunteers for audiences with diverse abilities. Material is presented using differentiated learning strategies with interactive activities in the galleries. Guides and docents understand the importance of breaking-down information into smaller parts and reviewing and repeating information.
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