

Thank you for choosing to visit the Minneapolis Institute of Arts for a docent-guided tour. Discussing these guidelines with your students and chaperones ahead of time will ensure that you all have a fun and educational museum visit.



### Plan Ahead

Review your tour confirmation(s) to confirm the date and time of your tour(s).

**Prepare for a call from your lead docent.** The lead docent will contact you in advance to find out about any special needs or requests your group might have. Your docents will select artworks that encourage open-ended discussions about the art.

**Discuss the tour with your class.** A pre-tour video, available free from the Teacher Resources Office, is a very helpful tool for sparking discussion. To request one, call (612) 870-6333 or e-mail [classroommaterials@artsmia.org](mailto:classroommaterials@artsmia.org). You can also ask your students who have visited the MIA before to share their experiences.

**Use MIA resources to help you plan.** You can see more than 2,000 works of art in the MIA's collection at ArtsConnectEd ([www.artsmia.org](http://www.artsmia.org)).

Support for school tours provided by

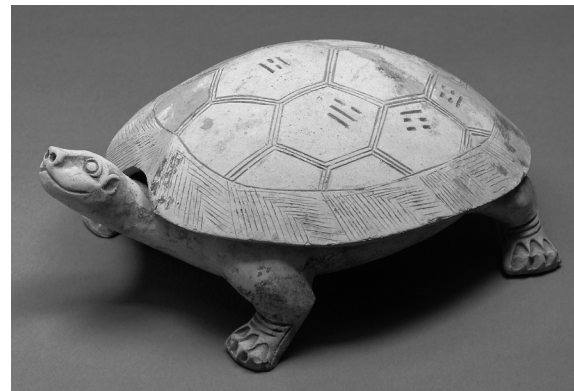


### Prepare Your Students

The policies below are meant to protect you, your students, and the art. Please make certain that students and chaperones understand group expectations.

Request that your students:

- Stay with your chaperone(s) at all times.
- Stay one foot away from artworks and refrain from touching them. This includes textiles, sculpture, furniture, and paintings.
- Walk carefully and moderate their voices.
- Leave backpacks and coats on the bus or store them at the museum.
- Keep food, drink, and gum out of the galleries.
- Write only with pencils in the galleries and bring a notebook or clipboard to support papers. Walls and display cases should not be used as writing surfaces.
- Keep to the sidewalks or grass to preserve the flowers for everyone's enjoyment.
- Be respectful of the museum's neighbors across the street while waiting for buses.
- Enjoy the art! Ask questions. Share opinions. Join discussions. Identify art they would like to see again and share with family and friends.



### Get Ready

**Wear name tags.** Students in grades K-6 need them, and we encourage older students to wear them as well.

**Create small groups before you arrive.** Break your class into groups of 15 or fewer students and assign a chaperone to each group.

### Prepare Your Chaperones

You will need one adult chaperone for every 15 students (this also applies to high school students). Please recruit additional chaperones as needed for students who require extra attention. For safety reasons, groups without the specified number of chaperones may be kept from entering the museum.

Discuss chaperone roles and expectations ahead of time and make sure your chaperones know the day's schedule. Chaperones' main function is to keep the group together at all times. For this reason, we ask that they not bring preschool children on visits or use cell phones while chaperoning.

To ensure the enjoyment and safety of all visitors, unsupervised or disruptive groups may be asked to leave.

### Left to right:

Hans Ledwinka, *Tatra T87*, 1948 (designed 1936), all-metal monocoque body, manufacturer: Ringhoffer-Tatra-Werke AG, Czechoslovakia, acquired with funds from the Regis Foundation

China, *Ink Tablet in the Form of a Turtle*, Han dynasty (206 B.C.–A.D. 220), earthenware with modeled and incised decor including the Eight Trigrams of the *I-Ching* (The Book of Changes), The William Hood Dunwoody Fund

Theodore Wendel, *The Butterfly Catchers*, 1900–08, oil on canvas, The Julia B. Bigelow Fund and The Ethel Morrison Van Derlip Fund

## At the MIA

**For the bus driver:** Ask bus drivers to drop off students at the museum entrance at 2400 Third Avenue South, in the passenger loading zone. Bus parking is available on 24th Street and surrounding Washburn Fair Oaks Park. We ask that drivers turn off their engines while waiting, as a courtesy to the museum's neighbors and the environment.

**Please arrive on time.** Allow plenty of time for travel, unloading, and checking in, so you're ready to start your tour at the scheduled time. Students should leave backpacks, coats, and books on the bus or store them at the museum.

**Check in.** When you arrive, check in at the greeter's desk in the front lobby so the greeter can connect your group with its docents.



## After the Tour

**Follow up.** Give students an opportunity to talk about their impressions. What art did they like best? Why? What was their favorite part of this museum experience?

**Tell us what you think!** Your opinion is very important to us. Please complete and return the postage-paid evaluation given to you by your lead docent.

Thanks for bringing your students to the MIA!

**Right flap:** Oceania, New Guinea, Melanesian region, Papua New Guinea, Kwoi, *Gope board*, 18th century; wood, pigment; The John R. Van Derlip Fund

**Above:** Nigeria, West Africa region, *Memorial screen*, late 19th century; wood, raffia, pigment; The John R. Van Derlip Fund

**Cover, top:** Berthe Morisot, *The Artist's Daughter, Julie, with Her Nanny* (detail), c. 1884, oil on canvas, The John R. Van Derlip Fund

**Cover, bottom:** United States, Arctic Region, Alaska, *Yupik mask*, 19th-20th century, wood, feathers, pigment, The John R. Van Derlip Fund



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# Docent-Guided Tours



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