



Guided Visit FAQ

October 2023 - February 2024

We are thrilled to launch a new, guided K-12 visit program beginning in October 2023! Thank you for being part of this exciting new experience for students. Please review the information below. If you have additional questions, contact tours@pam.org.

Who facilitates the visits?

Learning Guides are paid, college and graduate student interns who are trained by PAM staff to facilitate K-12 student experiences in the Museum. They are current students at Lewis and Clark, Portland State University, Reed, and the University of Portland.

What will the visit include?

Guides engage small groups of students in interactive, student-centered experiences with art. Your students will practice close looking and visual analysis, self-reflection and critical thinking, listening and sharing ideas through discussion and activities such as sketching, writing, and movement.

Guided visits will focus on the special exhibitions [Black Artists of Oregon](#) (Sept. 9, 2023 - March 17, 2024) and [Africa Fashion](#) (Nov. 18, 2023 - February 18, 2024) and address the following theme:

Expressing Identity: How do artists explore personal and cultural identity through their work? What do various mediums and styles tell us about artists' identities and those of the subjects they portray? How do artists express connections to place and region? Students will explore these questions while reflecting on their own identities and forms of self-expression.

When are guided visits available?

Wednesdays and Fridays between 10:15 and 1:00 beginning the first week of October (excluding some holidays and school breaks). Find available dates and times in the [online tour reservation system](#).

How long do guided visits last?

Guides will facilitate up to 45 minutes of your visit. Please make a note in the comments section of your reservation if you prefer a briefer experience (25 - 30 minutes) or a longer one (fully 45 minutes) or let us know when you arrive.

Can we remain in the Museum for self-guided time afterwards?

Yes, your class is welcome to remain in the exhibition for the remainder of the hour. We are glad to provide sketchbooks and the *Black Artists of Oregon* activity guide. If you would like to remain beyond

the hour, please leave a note in your reservation request or communicate with PAM staff as we will need to coordinate with other scheduled groups. Once [Throughlines](#) opens on Oct. 28, we encourage groups to spend self-guided time in that exhibition following the first hour of their visit.

How should I prepare my students?

- Please review the [Museum Agreements and Expectations](#).
- Let students know that PAM staff are excited to welcome them to the Museum and that their visit will be participatory—not a lecture.
- Before your visit, introduce the exhibitions through resources on the [exhibition webpages](#) and the [Poster Project](#). ([Carrie Mae Weems' *Untitled*](#) and [Isaka Shamsud-Din's *Rock of Ages*](#) are both in *Black Artists of Oregon!*)
- On the day of your visit, **divide students into groups** of 6 - 12 students each before you enter the Museum. We will provide four facilitators, so, in most cases, it makes sense to divide the class into four groups. We are glad to make adjustments based on your preferences and the size of your group.

After your visit, please complete the survey sent to your email address. We are grateful for your feedback and advice as we pilot and develop this new program. Thank you for bringing your students to the Portland Art Museum!