



Guided Visit FAQ 2025 – 26

When are guided visits available?

Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:15 and 11:30 except during Museum free days and holidays. After December 2, a **1:00 pm** time will also be available.

How many students can I bring?

We currently accommodate up to 48 students and 12 adults per tour time. After December 2, when the Museum returns to full capacity, we can accommodate a maximum of 60 students and 15 adults at one time. Please observe the 1:10 adult to student ratio for K-8 groups.

Who facilitates the visit?

Learning Guides are paid, college students and recent graduates who are trained by PAM staff to facilitate K-12 student experiences in the Museum. They attend Lewis and Clark College, Portland State University, and Reed College.

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. Guides are trained in Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) in addition to other methods. Guided visits may include time in any current exhibition. Please let us know your preferences and we will do our best to accommodate.

How long is the visit?

Guides are available to facilitate for **20 or 60 minutes**, depending on your preference.

- 20 minutes = welcome + VTS discussion of one work, followed by self-guided time
- 60 minutes = welcome, VTS discussion, activities (such as sketching, writing, tableau, movement), and stops in more than one exhibition

Your class is welcome to stay longer than an hour to enjoy self-guided time. However, we ask that you please give space to subsequent groups if the galleries become busy.

How should I prepare my students?

- Please review the [Museum Agreements and Expectations](#).
- **Divide students into groups** of 6 - 12 students before you enter the Museum.
- 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](#).

- Please have your students wear nametags, if school policy permits.

Make your group reservation on the [K-12 Visit webpage](#).

Questions? Write to groups@pam.org.

Thank you for bringing your students to the Portland Art Museum!