

## **University 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. All tours last 1 hour except VTS tours which last 45 minutes.

### **Special Exhibition Tours**

#### ***A Brush with Beauty: Japanese Paintings in Ink, Color, and Gold* (October 26, 2019 – January 26, 2020)**

##### **Allen Whitehill Clowes Special Exhibition Gallery**

The Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields culminates *Seasons of Japan* with this special exhibition, *A Brush with Beauty*. The exhibition features the best of the IMA's collection of Edo period (1600-1868) Japanese paintings (viewed as one of the best collections in the United States), as well as masterpieces across 700 years of Japanese painting. Students will encounter large scale screens and scrolls depicting scenes from Japanese life, nature, the animal world, and legends from Japanese culture and religion. Students will learn about the numerous artistic schools that flourished in Japan from the 17<sup>th</sup> to mid-19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Students will gain an understanding of the variety of styles, materials and mediums involved in the creation of Japanese paintings.

#### ***Fashion Redefined: Miyake, Kawakubo, and Yamamoto* (April 28, 2019 – January 5, 2020)**

##### **Paul Textile and Fashion Arts Galleries**

Limited to 30 students

In the 1980's Japanese designers challenged the principles of Western fashion by introducing clothing that draped and wrapped the body, concealing its contours and silhouette. Issey Miyake, Rei Kawakubo for Comme des Garçons, Yohji Yamamoto and other avant-garde Japanese fashion designers rejected the idea that women's clothing had to fit an idealized hourglass-shaped female body. Their innovative designs set new standards for shape and proportion and coined a contemporary definition of "universal beauty."

### **Interactive Dialogue**

#### **Closer Look Interactive Dialogue**

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.

### **VTS (Visual Thinking Strategies)**

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. If the group would like to engage in a debriefing of their tour, the VTS tour lasts 60 minutes.

### **Focus Tours**

#### **Focus: Faces**

Students will observe and discuss how artists throughout history have represented faces—human and animal, real and imaginary. Participants 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.

#### **Focus: Places**

Students will explore the ideas surrounding “place” including interiors, natural settings, cityscapes, and seascapes. Participants 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. Participants 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.

#### **Focus: Spaces**

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. Participants 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.

### **Gallery Tours**

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

Limited to 30 students, 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.

### **Creative Hoosiers**

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.

### **Spotlight: America**

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.

### **Spotlight: Europe**

This tour will explore the art of Europe from the 18<sup>th</sup> century through the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Works of art in a variety of media will be explored.

### **Spotlight: Art of the Western World**

This tour will provide students an opportunity to view works in both our American and European galleries and consider the influence of European culture on American artistic styles as well as the impact of globalization on both continents.

### **Spotlight: Africa**

Limited to 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.



African Art Cart Option: For groups with 30 or fewer students, an African Art Cart experience is offered as part of the tour. Deaccessioned African Art objects will be available for examination by students; a docent will facilitate the presentation.

### **Spotlight: Asia**

Limited to 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.

Asian Art Cart Option: For groups with 30 or fewer students, an Asian Art Cart experience is offered as part of the tour. Deaccessioned and purchased Asian Art objects will be available for examination by students; a docent will facilitate the presentation.

### **Spotlight: Contemporary**

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.



### **Spotlight: Design**

The IMA's 11,000-square-foot Design Gallery is the largest collection gallery devoted to modern and contemporary design in the country. The tour will explore the design process – from inspiration to production.



### **Self-Guided Tours**

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

### **Accessibility Tours**

#### **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.

#### **A Garden Experience for Everyone: for those with limited mobility or vision**

A garden tour that focuses only on the Garden for Everyone, or a tour that involves that area plus a short walk to the Overlook Garden is suitable for those in wheelchairs or those who cannot undertake long walks or be comfortable on irregular terrain. It is also an available option for those with limited vision. This tour lasts an hour more or less, depending on the group. Available April – October.

## **Campus Tours**

### **Lilly House Tour**

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.



### **Garden Tour**

This garden tour focuses on the landscapes in The Garden and the Country Estate surrounding the Lilly House featuring stately mature trees and lawns plus many areas planted with a variety of garden species, both common and rare. This tour last 1 hour and may involve uneven terrain and steps. Available April – October.

### **Outdoor Sculpture**

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.

### **The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres Tour**

Limit 30 students

Join a knowledgeable guide for an experience in The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres. Beginning at Lake Terrace, visitors will look for signs of wildlife, witness changes in the lake or river, or have discussions about native or invasive plants. Experiences will be seasonally influenced with flexibility to the visitors' interests. Available April – October

### **Native Trees & Shrubs of The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres**

This tour is designed for those who wish to learn more about the identification, characteristics and uses of trees and shrubs that are native to Indiana. The tour lasts 1-2 hours, depending on the group. Available April – October.