

WEATHERSPOON ART MUSEUM
TIPS FOR VISITING • 2015-16

Learning To Look

Looking deeply is a skill anyone can use to explore and understand visual art. Volunteer docents at WAM are trained to guide visitors in “learning to look” skills like observation, inquiry, interpretation and reflection.

Because exhibitions change regularly and may not always be appropriate for all audiences, we recommend viewing exhibitions online, if not in person, before your visit. See [Looking @ Art with Kids](#) for more suggestions.

Reservations

Online: weatherspoon.uncg.edu/visit/tourreservation
Phone: Terri Dowell-Dennis at (336) 256-1449
Email: t_dowell@uncg.edu

Tours

Please schedule guided or self-guided visits at least 3 weeks in advance. Due to capacity restrictions of some exhibitions, group sizes may be limited. In most instances, we can accommodate tours of 6 to 45 visitors. Tours are free. Donations are gladly accepted and are used to support our education programs.

Guided – Work with museum educators to design a visit around your curriculum goals or choose from one of several gallery experiences for K-12, college and adult audiences. Visit weatherspoon.uncg.edu/learn/.

Self-guided – Host a class, book club or team outing at WAM. Education staff can suggest ways to incorporate art into your discussion. Please contact us in advance if more than seven visitors are in your group.

Noon @ the Spoon – Stop by for a 20-minute public tour of our latest exhibition. Offered the 2nd Tuesday of the month. No reservations needed, but please call if more than seven are in your group. See website for details: weatherspoon.uncg.edu/eventcalendar

Art supplies

Sketching with pencils and non-permanent, dust-free drawing materials is permitted. Please leave food, drinks and backpacks outside the galleries. Ask a security officer if you have questions.

Chaperones

Grades pre-K-5 = 1 chaperone per 6 students
Grades 6-12 = 1 chaperone per 10 students

Dining

Dining facilities are not available however groups may use our outdoor sculpture garden on a first-come basis. Restaurants are located nearby and on UNCG’s campus. See UNCG dining services: dineoncampus.com/uncg/

Hours

Tue, Wed, Fri • 10am-5pm
Thu • 10am-9pm
Sat, Sun • 1-5pm
Closed Mondays and Holidays

Parking

Free visitor parking is directly behind the museum, enter the parking lot via Tate Street. Temporary parking passes are required and may be picked up inside at the visitors desk.

Photography

Non-flash photography for private use is permitted in designated areas. Please look for restriction signs.

Touching

Fingerprints leave an invisible layer of oil and dirt that over time can chemically alter an artwork’s patina or deteriorate its surface. By not touching and leaving artworks “fingerprint-free,” you’re helping us preserve these objects for a very long time.

LOOKING @ ART with KIDS

Where do we go?

Let your child be the guide. A good place to start is with art that is recognizable. Young children typically absorb 3-5 objects per visit. Limit your time and don’t try to see everything in one visit.

What do I say?

There is no right way to enjoy an art museum. Looking and talking together are the best ways to engage children. Being able to identify things is especially important for young children.

Ask children ages 2-6:

- *What do you see?*
- *What is your favorite part?*

About age 6, children begin to make personal connections to what they see. Ask:

- *What does this reminds you of?*
- *Can you tell me a story about this artwork?*

And last, reinforce your child's observations:

- What do you see that makes you think that?
 - Tell me more about...
 - Tell me what you like about it.
 - How is this different than what we just saw?
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What about nudity?

As in most art museums, you will likely find paintings and sculptures of nude figures. Artists have used the figure for centuries to express human emotions, tell stories, and illustrate spiritual beliefs.

By studying living things, like people and animals, artists learn about form, foreshortening, texture, and movement. These are useful skills in making art.

When talking about nudity, consider the human figure is universal and is easily identified regardless of culture or time period. It is one thing we all have in common.

Artists, like musicians and writers, can create things that are deeply personal and at times upsetting or shocking. Art about historical or current events, social issues, or personal experiences can be an opportunity for you to discuss your own views with your child. As needed, WAM posts notices outside exhibitions that include images or content that may not be appropriate for young visitors. If you have questions, please ask a security officer.

WEATHERSPOON ART MUSEUM

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Spring Garden & Tate Streets
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Free Admission. Free Parking. Free Thinking.