The Art of Chaperoning

Thank you for agreeing to be a chaperone! We believe that you play a key role in making the experience fun and educational, and we could not do our tours without you. Below is helpful information for your visit:

All students must be supervised at all times. Due to security regulations, you must travel the museum in your pre-assigned small groups (no more than 10 students). Chaperones are responsible for keeping all students together in their group while visiting the museum’s galleries, restrooms, and walkways. Please note that museum staff cannot assist with accompanying students to the restrooms.

Chaperone Guidelines

✓ Take an active role to encourage student enthusiasm and participation
✓ We have three rules - please set a good example and help the students remember:
  ○ Keep hands, bodies, toes OFF the art, platforms & cases
  ○ Walking feet only
  ○ Indoor voices – be aware of other visitors having a nice time at the museum as well
✓ Make sure your group stays together
✓ You must stay with your group at all times, unless the docent asks you to help with a student, such as taking a student to the bathroom
✓ Keep an eye on ALL kids – not just the one(s) you know

When on a tour with a docent:

• You will be with a docent (tour guide) who is a volunteer trained by museum staff.
• Pay attention to the tour and the docent and listen for instructions about how you can be helpful.
• Help the students listen to the docent – remind them to be good listeners.
• Guided tours are 45-60 minutes long.
• Each tour has a theme with learning goals.
• Tours are designed to be age-specific and to actively engage the students in the galleries. They include discussion, touchable objects, and student-driven discovery!
• Please keep your phone put away.

When self-guiding on your own:

• Your teacher may arrange for some time when you are not with a docent.
• You and your group will make a plan for your time in the museum.
• During your group’s exploration of the museum, you are responsible for enforcing museum rules and following the guidelines mentioned above.
• You will be responsible for your small group during your visit. Please don’t join with other groups. If a school group is already at an activity you are interested in, please move on to another area and return later.
• Please feel free to use your phones to take pictures (no flash, please!) but otherwise keep your phones away.
Museum Manners

In order to have the best experience possible, please review the following Museum Manners with your students prior to arriving at the museum. These are both for their safety and pleasure, as well as the protection of the artwork:

Museum Manners
✓ Please stay with your small group at all times.
✓ Always walk (rather than run) in the museum and on the museum’s plaza and outdoor areas.
✓ Please do not lean on museum walls, platforms, or cases.
✓ Indoor voices are best. Remember that there are other people coming to enjoy the museum just like you.
✓ Please do not touch the art objects in the galleries. The slightest touch can leave a fingerprint or damage the art in some way.

Other Helpful Tips
✓ Photography is OK but no flash.
✓ No food or drink is allowed in the galleries. There are bathrooms and water fountains on every floor next to the elevators.
✓ Backpacks and large bags cannot be carried into the galleries. Please leave these and other valuables at school and home. *The Denver Art Museum is not responsible for lost or stolen items.*
✓ The museum does not have lunchroom facilities. Outdoor space is available for students to enjoy lunch. If available, staff will arrange indoor space for lunch in the case of inclement weather.
✓ Gallery hosts can be found in every gallery. They are there to guide your visit and protect you and the artworks, so please ask them any questions you have! They can also help you find any lost items.
✓ Writing and sketching is allowed in the galleries, following the below guidelines:
  o Graphite pencils only. Ballpoint pens, markers, crayons, or colored pencils are not allowed except in designated artmaking areas.
  o Sketchbooks are allowed, up to 11 x 14 inches in size.
✓ Please have FUN!

THANK YOU! We look forward to your group’s visit to the museum!