

WICHITA ART MUSEUM

WAM GUIDE FOR LEARNING

Fall 2020



WAM at Home
and
in the Classroom

Visit us online at
wichitaartmuseum.org



Connecting through art

Even in uncertain times, the creative spirit is unlimited. This is what makes us human.

While the Covid-19 pandemic has caused many changes for learning and educators (both teachers and parents) this Fall 2020, know that Wichita Art Museum is open to all—and we're committed to connecting you to inspiration, knowledge, and a sense of community through art.

WAM will provide new online opportunities for distance and at-home learning. We're bringing the museum to you with new online activities and resources. From live screenings of guest speakers to enriching artmaking activities created by WAM's dedicated educators, there are opportunities for creativity and learning for everyone.

Start with a journey through our online collection, revisit some of your favorite WAM art, and enjoy video content that brings you closer to the stories behind the art and artists at the museum.

Follow all of our digital activities using [#wichitaartmuseum](#) or sign up for our digital newsletter at wichitaartmuseum.org/enews. We look forward to connecting with you.

WAM will offer on-site school tour programs this fall with special protocols for keeping everyone safe:

- * All art activities will be modified to ensure a safe and healthy environment for kids.
- * Face masks are required for children, except infants and kids in strollers.
- * Participants will be spaced apart at least six feet for social distancing.
- * Participants will be clustered to restrict mixing.
- * Immediate contact will be strenuously avoided.
- * Supplies and materials will not be shared.
- * WAM will provide hand sanitizers in the Living Room, Art Studio and select areas in the museum. During programs, visitors will be asked to clean table stations after their session and before the next group. These spaces with high-touch locations will be cleaned by WAM staff four times during public hours—or every two hours.
- * WAM will also continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and make any changes or cancellations as needed to ensure safety.

Please check the WAM website or with the WAM education staff for updates and possible changes.

Stay Connected with WAM

Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) to get your regular dose of art and see which works are on the minds of WAM staff. And to binge on video content—including expert art talks and insights into WAM’s American art collection—head on over to our [YouTube channel](#).

just FOR KIDS



Check out the new [WAM For Kids page](#). Educators and parents can find great art activities to do in the classroom or at home.



Schedule a Tour

WAM offers FREE tours for K–College, both guided and self-guided. The museum is an educational institution, and students and teachers are very important. We want every student to have an enriching, dynamic museum visit, and we want teachers to see the museum as an extended classroom to help meet state standards as well as build critical thinking skills and visual literacy. WAM is here for you! [Schedule a tour today!](#)

Free guided school tours—for kindergarten through grade 12—focus on WAM’s vast American art collection and special traveling exhibitions. Tours for all levels are tailored to the needs of individual groups and generally last 45 minutes for K–2nd grades and one hour for 3rd–12th grades. School tour programs are led by trained docents and museum educators.

Art is a powerful way to spark critical thinking and enhance the curriculum content at every grade level and across subject areas. The development of critical thinking skills is now recognized as an essential component in the education of students.

Download an Educator’s Guide

Explore the world of art from wherever you are with these [educational resources](#) for K–12 teachers! Each guide offers insightful information about selected artists and works of art related to our collection and exhibitions, as well as topics for discussion, writing activities, and art projects.

Tour Topics

Learning to Look (K-6)

Participate in interactive discussion through the art collection as students learn about basic elements of art, narrative ideas, historical context, and an introduction to looking at a work of art in depth.

Lands Near and Far (4-12)

Students will tour WAM's collection and special exhibitions exploring art that depicts land, cities, and seas. This tour will incorporate several exhibitions and various artists for a broad look into themes of the land and environment.

American Identity (5-12)

Discuss themes of cultural and national heritage using artwork to generate conversation and inquiry. Artists give us a unique window into American life, reflecting the cultural, social, and political climate of the time. This tour will incorporate the permanent collection as well as special exhibitions to delve deeper into artwork that addresses the themes that make us uniquely American.

Sculpture in the Art Garden (3-12)

Explore concepts such as shape, scale, space, and texture by viewing sculptures in WAM's Art Garden. There are sculptures around every twist and bend—from artist Henry Moore to Tom Otterness. This tour is seasonal and weather permitting.

Art Mix

Looking for extra ways to spark creativity while at WAM? Try a special hands-on activity to expand learning. Students roll up their sleeves and experiment with media, techniques, and concepts of art in projects linked to their gallery tour experience. Materials cost per student is \$5.

Self-Guided Tours

Custom self-guided tours give you the ability to create a tour specifically for your class needs. You will have the opportunity to work with a museum educator to choose objects and help you craft questions that will encourage deeper looking and conversation. Custom self-guided tours occur when the museum is open to the public, and school groups must be with a chaperone in the galleries. For more information, contact WAM's education department at education@wichitaartmuseum.org, and we can begin to plan a great self-guided opportunity for your group—be it a school, parents' group, homeschool, daycare, or scout troop!

What students will do while on tour at WAM

- Work in small groups of 8 to 10 students per WAM docent
- Make observations and demonstrate original thinking
- Participate in group discussions
- Build good questions to explore artworks on view
- Use critical thinking skills to create and justify interpretations
- Participate in hands-on activities
- Build 21st-century skills

2020–2021 Special Traveling Exhibitions at WAM

Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight

On view through Sunday, January 17, 2021

In *Raven and the Box of Daylight*, artist Preston Singletary uses monumental glass sculptures to explore the Northwest Native story of Raven and how the bird brings light to the world through the sun, moon, and stars. Singletary's remarkable works—more than 50 glass sculptures including a glass canoe, glass paddles, and glass river—are joined by audio and video elements to create a dynamic, multi-sensory environment. Ideal for classrooms exploring American and Native American culture, art, and history, the exhibition takes visitors on an experiential journey following the transformation of darkness into light.

- [Click here](#) for the Educator's Guide to this exhibition.
- [Click here](#) for a talk by the artist of this exhibition.
- Coming soon! A virtual tour of the Preston Singletary exhibition.



Preston Singletary, *Dleit Yeil (White Raven)*, 2018. Blown, hot-sculpted, and sand-carved glass. 19 1/4 x 9 x 14 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



William H. Johnson, *Sowing*, about 1940. Oil on burlap, 38 1/2 x 45 3/4 inches. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C., Gift of the Harmon Foundation

African American Art in the 20th Century: Harlem Renaissance, Civil Rights Era, and Beyond

Saturday, February 6 through Sunday, May 23, 2021

Visit the Wichita Art Museum for *African American Art in the 20th Century: Harlem Renaissance, Civil Rights Era, and Beyond*, an exhibition that presents nearly 50 paintings and sculptures by 34 African American artists. These masterpieces explore everyday American themes as well as those specific to the African American experience, including the struggle for economic and civil rights, the beauties and hardships of life in rural and urban America, and the power of art and music. Created in moments of significant social and political change—from the 1920s jazz age to the 1960s civil

rights movement and beyond—each work dazzles visually while also shedding light on the complex American story. The exhibition features artworks by leading 20th-century artists Romare Bearden, Sam Gilliam, Jacob Lawrence, Lois Mailou Jones, Hale Woodruff, and others. *African American Art in the 20th Century* is organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The C.F. Foundation in Atlanta supports the museum's traveling exhibition program, Treasures to Go.

All exhibitions are supported by the Friends of the Wichita Art Museum and City of Wichita.



Friends of the
Wichita Art Museum

Glass art exhibitions are generously supported by the F. Price Cossman Trust, INTRUST BANK, Trustee.

How to schedule a tour at the Wichita Art Museum

1. Plan the tour choice for your WAM visit based on age level and curriculum interests.
2. Request the tour by filling out the [online form](#). Please make reservations at least three weeks in advance.
3. Tell us about any special needs when you request the tour. WAM is wheelchair accessible.

BEFORE YOUR TOUR

- * Prepare your students for the trip with a review of museum manners and expectations. Visit wichitartmuseum.org/learn/tours to print this information.
- * Prepare chaperones with guidelines on the museum experience. You will need one adult chaperone per every ten students; chaperones are admitted free.
- * Organize student groups, identifying one adult chaperone for every ten students. Each student and adult will need a nametag.



Bus reimbursement

When you are able to visit, we've got you covered! WAM provides free bus reimbursement to all Wichita-area schools within reasonable driving distance.

For additional information on applying for bus reimbursement, call 316-268-4917 or email education@wichitaartmuseum.org.

Visit wichitaartmuseum.org/teachers for full details and listings of all our educational programs.

WICHITA ART MUSEUM MISSION

To bring people, ideas, and American art together to enrich lives and build community.



WICHITA ART MUSEUM

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesdays–Saturdays | 10 am–5 pm
Sundays | Noon–5 pm

**Saturday admission
is always free, sponsored by
Colby Sandlian, Sandlian Realty**

CONTACT US

1400 West Museum Boulevard
Wichita, Kansas 67203
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316-268-4907

FRONT COVER: Preston Singletary, *Nass Héeni (Nass River)*, 2018. Kiln-formed glass, steel feet, three straight panels each, 1 1/2 × 47 1/2 × 23 1/2 inches, six curved panels each, 11 1/2 × 52 5/16 × 25 1/8 inches. Courtesy of the artist. On view in Preston Singletary: *Raven and the Box of Daylight* through Sunday, January 17, 2021.