

# Museum Manners & Chaperone Guidelines



The Baltimore Museum of Art wholeheartedly welcomes groups who wish to visit its galleries. These Guidelines will help to ensure a safe, enjoyable, and productive learning experience for all.

## MUSEUM MANNERS

Students have the best museum experience when they know what to expect and what is expected of them. Please review these "Museum Manners" with your group.

- Please do not touch objects in the Museum galleries.
- Stay with your group at all times. The BMA is a big place and it is easy to get lost.
- Always walk (never run) in the galleries or sculpture gardens. We do not want you to hurt yourself or damage the artworks.
- Please use indoor voices so that you do not distract other groups in the galleries. Speak one at a time so that everyone can be heard.
- Use pencils for writing or sketching. No crayons, pens, markers, or wet materials are permitted in the galleries.
- Please do not lean on walls or cases and do not use them as writing surfaces.
- For your safety and the safety of the artworks, do not touch or climb on the sculptures in the Sculpture Gardens. The "please don't touch" policy applies outdoors as well as indoors.

## THE ROLE OF CHAPERONES

Group leaders and chaperones play an important part in making their students' museum visit safe, enjoyable, and educationally valuable. If you are escorting a self-guided group or accompanying a Docent-led tour, these guidelines should help you with your task.

- **BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR GROUP**  
You will be responsible for a group of 10-15 students. It is vital that you know who is in your group and keep the group together. Please accompany your group in the galleries at all times and do not wander off to other areas.
- **HELP YOUR STUDENTS LEARN**  
On docent-led tours, Docents will be posing age-appropriate questions with the students' needs in mind. Though we appreciate your enthusiasm, please allow the students to answer the questions and refrain from answering yourself. If your tour is self-guided, help students explore the galleries by encouraging them to look carefully at the artworks.
- **BE A MODEL FOR YOUR STUDENTS' BEHAVIOR**  
Please review Museum Manners with your group and lead by your good example so that everyone's museum experience will be smooth and enjoyable.

Please be advised that BMA guards will ask unchaperoned or unruly groups to leave the Museum.