

# Walker Guided Tour Topics and Themes

## GUIDED TOUR TOPICS

For guided tours, please select your topic preference. (Note maximum number of participants.)

### **Gallery Tour** (max. 60)

Familiarize yourself with contemporary art by exploring works of art in the Walker's collection.

### **Sculpture Garden Tour** (max. 60)

Explore concepts such as shape, scale, space, and texture in one of the country's largest urban sculpture parks. The Minneapolis Sculpture Garden features more than 40 artworks, including the whimsical Pop Art icon *Spoonbridge and Cherry* by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen.

### **Architecture of Expansion** (max. 60)

These tours introduce visitors to the expanded Walker Art Center through an in-depth exploration of its state-of-the-art spaces and the processes used by the architects Herzog & de Meuron for designing the 2005 building.

### **Special Exhibition** (max. may vary)

Our special exhibition tours focus on a variety of topics and artists. For more information about exhibitions currently on view, click here:

<http://schools.walkerart.org/exhibitions.wac>.

### **Custom Tour** (max. may vary)

The tour program will work with you to develop a custom tour based on a theme or topic of particular interest to your group. We will contact you to make arrangements after we receive your request. In addition to a specially tailored topic, your tour can be enriched by an Art Lab or food and drink from D'Amico Modern Events (see additional tour components below).

### **Pre-K Gallery Tour** (max. 60)

Children explore works of art in the galleries by focusing on basic elements such as color, line, shape, and pattern. The tour guide will incorporate tactile objects and props into this presentation.

### **Pre-K Sculpture Garden Tour** (max. 60)

Children explore works of art in the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden by focusing on basic elements such as color, line, shape, and pattern. The tour guide will incorporate tactile objects and props into this presentation.

## GUIDED TOUR THEMES

Refine your chosen tour topic by selecting one of the themes below. Tour themes are for K–12 school groups. (Note age recommendations and maximum participant numbers where indicated.)

### **Elements and Principles of Contemporary Art** (grades K–12)

Starting with the basic elements of visual art, such as line, shape, color, and texture, this tour explores concepts such as appropriation, performance, time, space, and hybridity in the work of contemporary artists.

**Media, Materials, and Meaning** (grades K–12)

This tour looks at the myriad, often unconventional ways in which artists have reshaped and challenged traditional forms and techniques of painting, sculpture, photography, and printmaking.

**So, Why Is This Art?** (grades 6–12)

Using works in the galleries to inspire thought and discussion, tour participants investigate questions such as: What is art? Should art be beautiful? Is art an object or a process? Should art be realistic? Can art change society?

**Living in Our Time** (grades K–12)

What does it mean to live in our time? This basic yet complex question is explored through the work of contemporary artists who address social and cultural themes ranging from personal identity to challenging issues of our world today.

**Writing through Art** (max. 60, grades 4–12)

The Writing through Art tours can incorporate descriptive writing, critical essays, stories and narratives, or poetry. Select one type of writing or schedule multiple visits to experience all four.

## ADDITIONAL TOUR COMPONENTS

The components below can be added to your guided tour. (Note maximum participant numbers and age recommendations where indicated.)

**Art Lab** (max. 60)

Participants roll up their sleeves and experiment with media, techniques, and concepts of contemporary art through hands-on activities linked with themes and ideas covered during the guided tour. Activities are designed and selected by the Art Lab coordinator.

**Garden Scavenger Hunt****Gallery Scavenger Hunt****Plan Pre- and Post-Tour Activities**

Connect your tour to the classroom by exploring [ArtsConnectEd](#). In advance of your visit, find works on view in Art Finder and Art Collector Sets. After your visit, find additional resources for deeper learning or activate the user-driven features such as tagging and Art Collector Set creation.

**Food & Drink**

Add boxed lunches, hors d'oeuvres and wine, or coffee service to a tour with select offerings from D'Amico Modern Events. To order call 612.253.3404.