

EVERSON MUSEUM OF ART

A Pre-Visit Guide for Educators





Photo by Scott Basile

 EVERSON MUSEUM OF ART

401 Harrison Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 474-6064
www.everson.org



Photo by Ariana Dibble

A Letter From the Education Department

Dear Educator:

This packet is designed to introduce your students to the Everson Museum and its collections prior to your museum visit. Students who are prepared to visit an art museum are able to benefit more from their visit. Please visit our website to download our Introduction to the Everson Museum highlighting the Museum's permanent collection, the museum building itself – "a work of art to house works of art," and a review of museum etiquette and skills.

www.everson.org/learn/school-tours



SCHEDULING A TOUR

The Everson provides guests of all ages an opportunity to enjoy, learn, and connect with art through a variety of free docent-led tours. Choose from one of our many thematic tours or take a general tour of the permanent collection or temporary exhibitions.

Docent-led tours are available Wednesday through Friday 10:00am–Noon. Tuesdays, afternoon, and weekend tours are available on a limited basis. Tours are one hour in length.

Types of Tours

Permanent Collection

The Everson Museum of Art features the works of American artists from the 18th century to the present; including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography and video. In addition, the Ceramic Gallery features works of our world-renowned ceramic collection.

Visual Thinking Strategies

Visual Thinking Strategies uses art to teach thinking, communication skills, and visual literacy to young people. Visual Thinking Strategies tours provide an inquiry-based approach to looking at art. Docents guide visitors through facilitated discussions about selected narrative-based works of art.

Ceramic Gallery

The Everson Museum is internationally recognized for its ceramic collection that spans the ancient classical world, the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe, as well as American Clay sculptures and vessels. The Ceramic Gallery features themed exhibitions throughout the year.

Group size is limited to 60 people maximum, but larger groups may reserve two consecutive sessions. one docent will be assigned to every ten students.

To schedule your tour please contact the Education Coordinator at (315) 474-6064 x323 or calbright@everson.org at least three weeks in advance. tour dates book quickly, so it is recommended that you have alternate dates in mind. Please find a tour request form attached to this packet.

Architecture

The Everson's Architecture tours offer a behind-the-scenes look at our largest work of art: the Museum's renowned building designed by internationally acclaimed architect I.M. Pei.

Outreach

Everson docents are available by appointment to make presentations and art making activities about the Museum's collections to classrooms and organizations.

* All tours are available in French on a limited basis

What to Expect During Your Visit

An experienced docent will lead your tour. Docents are knowledgeable, friendly and enthusiastic guides that act as a link between the museum and its visitors. They receive extensive professional development that will enable them to engage visitors of all ages. They make visiting the museum a stimulating and memorable experience.

Museum Etiquette

- For your own safety, please walk, do not run
- Please raise your hand when you would like to speak
- Please speak softly
- Please do not touch the artwork. Maintain a distance of about 2 feet from the artwork.
- Food, drinks or gum are not permitted in the galleries
- Backpacks and coats should be checked.

Helpful Tips

- Please arrive on time due to tours that are scheduled before and after your tour
- If you are running late for a tour please contact the museum
- Please have your students wear name tags – our docents find this most helpful
- Chaperone to student ratio is 1:10. Chaperones are expected to stay with the group at all times and ensure student compliance with museum policies.
- School groups frequently tour the museum before we open to the general public. If your tour is before noon, a docent must accompany you at all times for your own safety and the safety of the artwork.
- In fair weather, groups may eat in the Plaza adjacent to the museum. Please inquire if you are interested in eating lunch in our Education Center in the museum. Lunchroom reservations

in the Education Center must be scheduled in advance. Last minute requests cannot be accommodated.

- Restaurants in the area include: Civic Center cafeteria – Lower level, corner of Montgomery & Harrison Street, Panini's, and Ale & Angus.

Educator Resources

The Everson Museum offers professional development through workshops held throughout the year for educators of all disciplines and grade levels. Gallery walks, guest speakers, art making and curriculum packets provide teachers with materials to use for pre- and post- tour use.

The Educator Resource Center is a lending library that includes art reproductions, lessons, multicultural art objects, books, and a research kiosk with laptops, wireless internet, a scanner and printer. The ERC is available for use Wednesday – Friday, Noon – 5:00pm and by appointment. Please call one week in advance to schedule your visit. Curriculum packets are also available on the Everson website, www.everson.org/learn/educators.



Photo by Scott Basile



Sketching in the Galleries

Sketching in the galleries is available when the museum is open for guests. If you plan to have your students sketch in the galleries, please make prior arrangements when scheduling your tour. There is a limitation on the use of materials in the galleries. We ask that when sketching you use #2 pencils ONLY. All other materials are prohibited.

Visitors with Disabilities

The Everson Museum of Art welcomes visitors and groups of all abilities. The museum is accessible to wheelchair users via the ramp at the main entrance on Harrison St. and the elevators inside the Museum are accessible on all levels. There are a limited number of designated parking spaces for visitors with disabilities available on Harrison St. All public galleries are accessible to visitors in wheelchairs.

Tour Changes or Cancellations

In the event you must reschedule your tour, please contact the Education Coordinator at least one week in advance to make alternate arrangements. If you must cancel your tour at the last minute due to inclement weather, staff illness or other reason, you MUST contact all of the docents provided on your tour confirmation letter before 8:00 AM the day of the tour. Please also leave a message at the Museum. Many docents travel long distances and have other obligations and appreciate your consideration.



Photo by Ariana Dibble

An Introduction the Museum

The Everson Museum of Art was the first museum project of internationally renowned architect I.M. Pei. The building, which opened in 1968, is constructed of poured reinforced concrete mixed with crushed rose granite. The exterior and sections of the interior were bush-hammered to create diagonal ridges across the surface. Areas of smooth grey concrete offset these rough textured sections.

Architect Frank Sherman writes:

I.M. Pei designed the Everson Museum of Art to be a grand sculptural object, sitting in a plaza, surrounded by the forms of the modern city. He rejected the traditional notion that a museum needed to be a monumental container for art and decided it ought to be a sculptural work of art itself. He designed a building that could be experienced as sculpture.

We experience sculpture in three dimensions by moving around it. Sculpture is meant to be seen from multiple viewpoints over a period of time. I.M. Pei wants us to see his building from multiple viewpoints, to move around it, discover its forms and spaces. He wants us to discover how to enter the building and be delighted by the spaces we find.



Photo by Scott Basile

Sculpture Court & Ground Floor

The spiral staircase dominates the Sculpture Court on the main level. The repetition of square forms and the use of changing vantage points and perspectives in this piece accentuate the strong sense of positive and negative space created by Pei's building, along with the changes that occur in our perspective as we climb the stairs. A small exhibit of decorative artwork from the arts and crafts period is also located in the Members' gallery on the Main Level of the museum.

Second Floor

On the second floor, a rotating selection from our permanent collection, as well as temporary exhibitions, are featured in the Coyne, Memorial, Falcone and Williams Galleries spaces for disabled visitors available on Harrison St. All public galleries are accessible to visitors in wheelchairs.



Photo by Jamie Young

Lower Level

Ceramic Gallery:

The ceramic work in this collection ranges from the ancient world (a Greek amphora from the 5th century BCE) to contemporary times, and includes modern ceramics, as well as historical work from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. The Everson Museum's ceramics collection began with the purchase of 32 porcelains by local ceramist Adelaide Alsop Robineau. The "Scarab Vase" is a classic example of her careful glazework and intricate carving.



Photo by Jamie Young

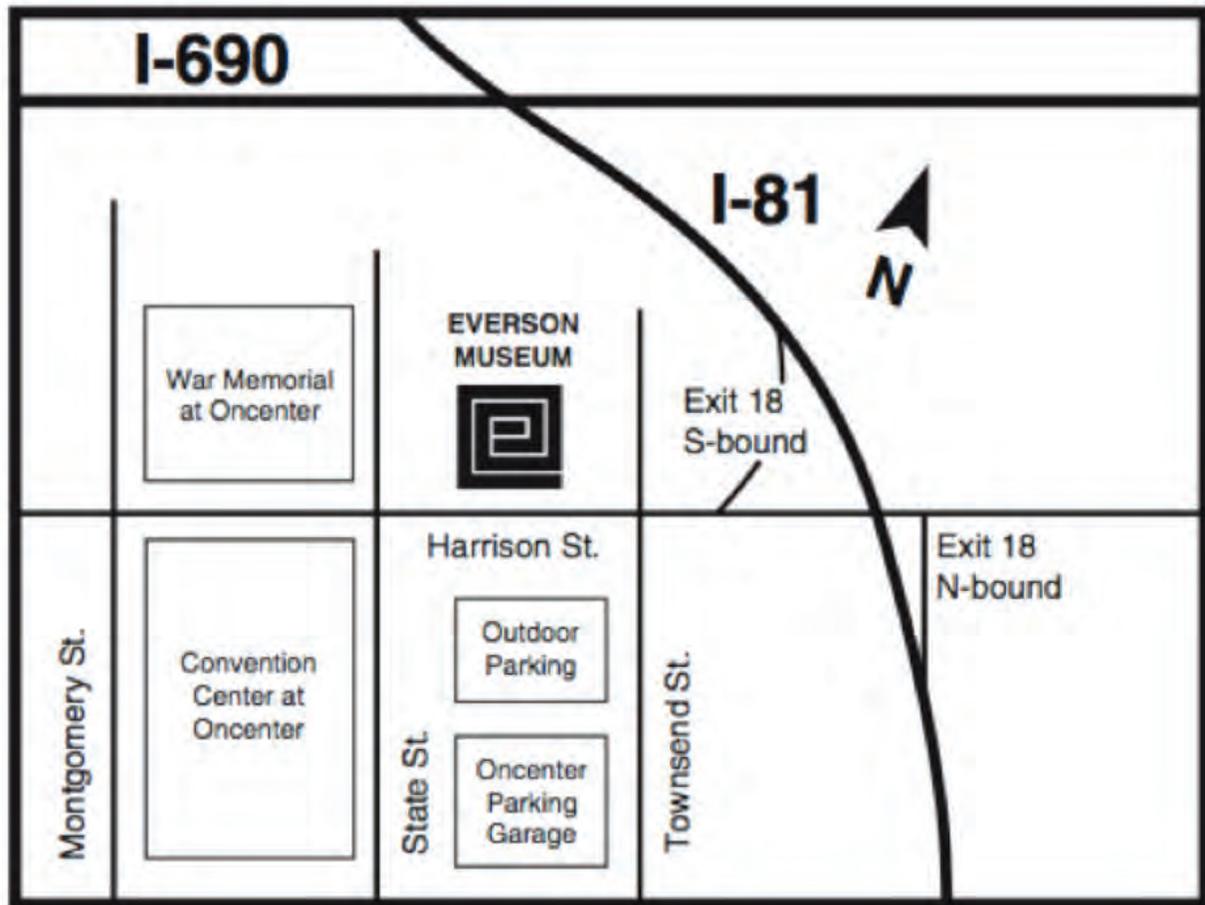


Parking

- Buses may not park in the Museum lot. Buses may stop to let students off on Harrison Street. Buses may stand on State Street if the driver stays with the vehicle.
- Parking is available for a fee in several open lots adjacent to the museum. One is located across from the museum on Harrison Street. Another is located directly behind the museum on Townsend Street. In addition, there is parking available in the Oncenter parking garage and lot accessible off both Townsend and State Streets. Be sure to bring your OnCenter parking ticket to the Everson visitor services desk for a stamp and receive discounted parking for \$2.50. Metered parking is available along Harrison and State Streets. On-street parking is free on Sundays. A small number of staff and handicapped parking spaces along Harrison Street are free to the public on weekends.

Museum Policies

- Food and beverage are not permitted inside the galleries.
 - Use of cellular phones is prohibited inside the Museum, unless for use with cellular audio tour.
- For the safety of the art and visitors, nothing may be carried on your back. Items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be stored in our lockers, located on the lower level. For your convenience, we provide free tokens for the lockers that can be retrieved at either the Museum Shop or Welcome Desk.
 - Strollers are permitted inside the galleries. Children may not be carried on the shoulders of another person or in a backpack child carrier.
 - The Museum permits photography and videotaping of the permanent collection with permission from the Museum; loaned exhibitions may not be photographed or videotaped.
 - Please see the administrative assistant in the administrative offices for permission to photograph the permanent collection. Do not approach any artwork closer than 24" or in any other way that will endanger it when photographing.
 - No electronic flashes or tripods may be used in the Museum.



DIRECTIONS

From the north and New York State Thruway:

From the Thruway take Syracuse Exit 36 to Interstate Route 81 south. Take I-81 S to exit 18 (Harrison/Adams). Bear right at the end of the exit onto Harrison Street. The museum is two blocks ahead on the right.

From the south:

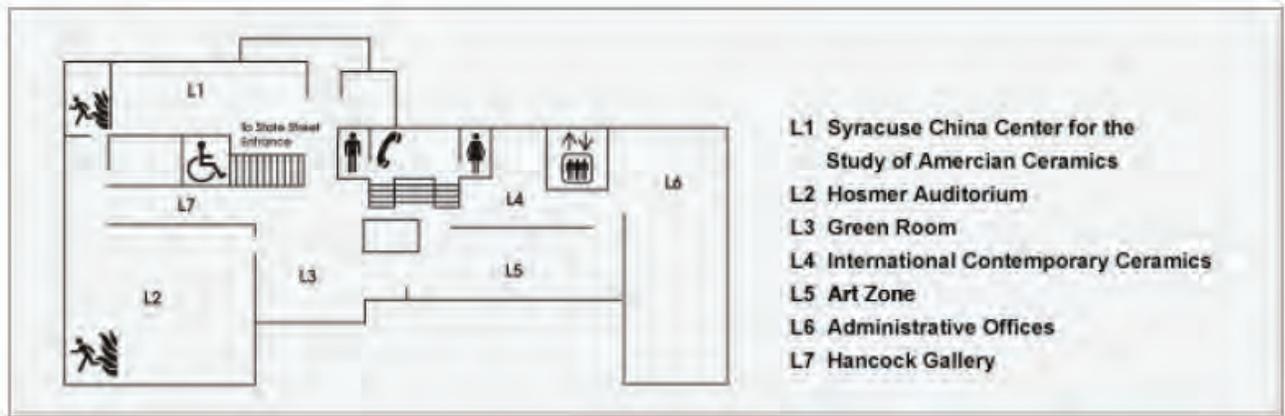
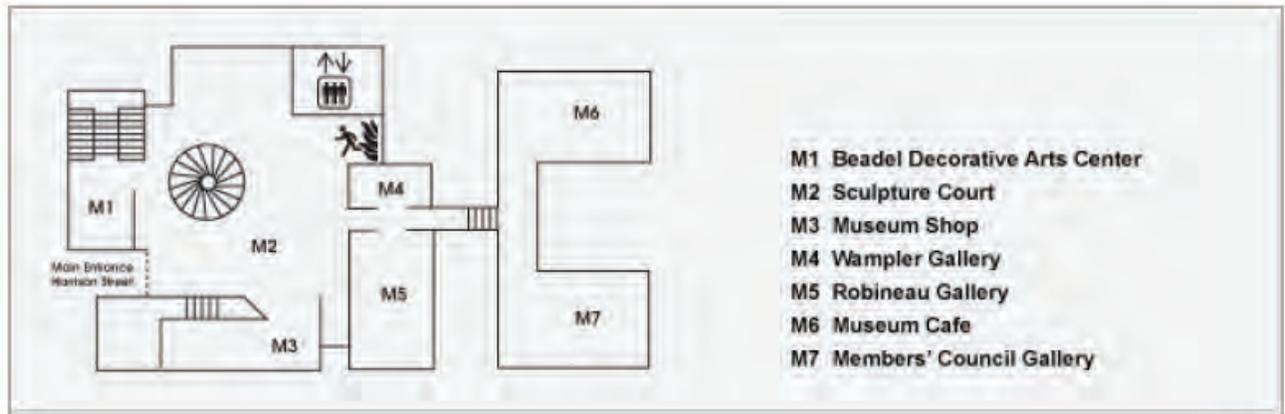
Take Interstate Route 81 north to exit 18 (Harrison/Adams). Follow signs to Harrison Street and turn left. The museum is two blocks ahead on the right.

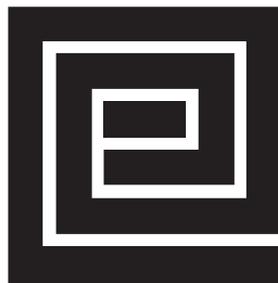
From the east:

Take Interstate 690 west to the Townsend Street exit. Turn left onto Townsend, go six blocks to Harrison Street. Turn right onto Harrison Street. The museum is on the right.

From the west:

Take Interstate 690 east to Interstate 81 south. Immediately exit I-81 S at exit 18 (Harrison/Adams). Bear right onto Harrison Street. The museum is two blocks ahead on the right.





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