



What Happens on a Museum Tour?

Part 1: A pre-visit introduction for teachers and students.



Welcome to the University of Michigan Museum of Art or UMMA (ooo-mah). You will probably arrive by bus, and you will get off the bus at a corner where you will be able to see this sculpture.



When you get to the museum, you will see a new building with a tall red sculpture in front of it . . .



. . . connected to an old building with stairs and a porch.



After you arrive, the docents (the people who will guide your tour) will meet you in the lobby.



Your class will be divided into small groups, and each will travel with a docent into the galleries (rooms full of art).



Your docent will tell you about what you will see and some guidelines about how to act in a museum

Art at UMMA belongs to the people of the state of Michigan. We ask you not to touch the art because it is often fragile -- like this African headdress made of feathers -- and we want it to last for a long time.

Also, to protect the art from the natural oil on our skin and from bright light, we ask you not to eat or drink or take flash photographs in the galleries.





Some places in the museum are very cozy.

Some places are very grand.





Art comes in all sizes, from this small pipe to this big multi-media piece by African American artist Mark Bradford.





Docents will talk with you about art, and you can be an active participant. There are no right or wrong answers. Here, a student shares an idea about a Chinese painting by pointing--not touching.

You will look at art from different times and places.

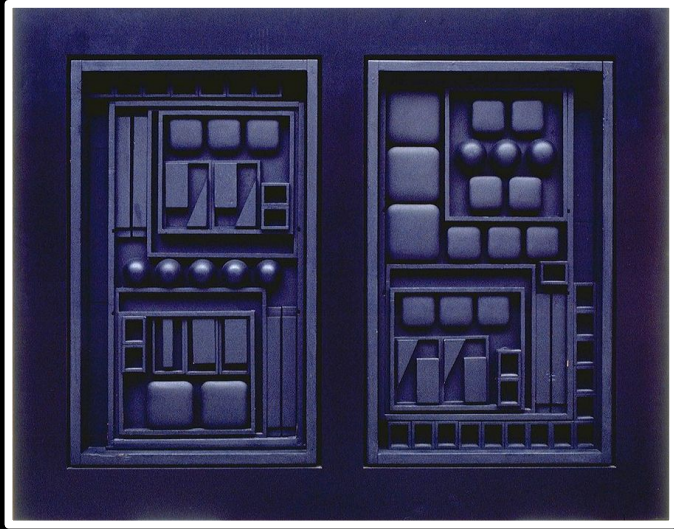


Your tour might connect with something you are learning in class, maybe Abraham Lincoln.





Some tours are about art and science. These students are talking about light, shadow and iridescence.



Sometimes you do creative activities about the art.





Sometimes you get to
dress like a king!

We're excited to see you soon at UMMA!

For more information about how a museum works and who works inside, see:

Pre-Visit Part 2:
What Happens In a Museum

