



Scheduling School Experiences with GRAM

We ask that all school groups please make a reservation to visit GRAM, even during free admission days and evenings, so that we can best support your visit experience. To schedule visits during our public hours, please reach out with approximately 3 weeks' notice. We encourage schools and educators to book early, as dates fill quickly and are based on availability.

Visit artmuseumgr.org/school-tours-workshops to complete our online school group request form or reach out to Emily Jarvi, School Experience Manager, at ejarvi@artmuseumgr.org or 616.831.2928 for more information.

School Experience Scheduling During Non-Public Hours*

We can also book school experiences during our non-public hours (with 4 weeks' notice) for an additional staffing fee (an additional \$15 per every 10 people), based on availability.

For visits during non-public hours, please complete our online request form with at least 4-5 weeks' notice for staffing and scheduling availability.

**Please note that we cannot schedule any school experiences on Mondays, nor on Thursday mornings prior to 12 pm.*

Museum Hours through Dec 6

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	12 pm - 5 pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	12 pm - 8 pm
Friday	12 pm - 5 pm
Saturday	10 am - 4 pm
Sunday	10 am - 4 pm

Non-Public Hours through Dec 6

Tuesday	9:30 am - 12 pm
Wednesday	9:30 am - 5 pm
Friday	9:30 am - 12 pm

New Museum Hours after Dec 6

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	12 pm - 5 pm
Thursday	12 pm - 8 pm
Friday	12 pm - 5 pm
Saturday	10 am - 4 pm
Sunday	10 am - 4 pm

Non-Public Hours after Dec 6

Tuesday	9:30 am - 5 pm
Wednesday	9:30 am - 12 pm
Friday	9:30 am - 12 pm

Grand Rapids Art Museum School Experiences 2025-2026 School Year

artmuseumgr.org/learn

101 Monroe Center St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49503



GRAM's Creative Learning Center and Discovery Gallery

The **Creative Learning Center** offers a new way to experience the Grand Rapids Art Museum, where guests can invent, experiment, and explore in a space that invites everyone in our community to make their mark at the Museum.

Designed to provide our guests with hands-on experiences that are always available when the museum is open, the **Discovery Gallery** is a vibrant, highly active space designed for imaginative play and creative exploration for all ages. As an extension of GRAM's gallery interactives, the Discovery Gallery offers a creative space to explore a variety of art and design activities in a fun and relaxed manner, as well as make-and-take artmaking experiences.

Examples of Discovery Gallery activities include:

- Book Nook
- Make-and-Take art activities
- Exploring authentic works of art from GRAM's Permanent Collection
- Twisting Towers
- Layered Landscapes
- Think Like a Curator
- Build Like a Sculptor



CREATIVE
LEARNING
CENTER



Exhibitions

David Hockney: Perspective Should Be Reversed, Prints from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation
May 31, 2025 - Nov 2, 2025

ArtPrize 2025 featuring Elijah Haswell
Aug 5, 2025 - Apr 26, 2026

ArtPrize 2025 featuring Luis Fernandez
Sep 17, 2025 - Oct 5, 2025

Pablo Picasso: Relentless Innovation
Aug 12, 2025 - Oct 26, 2025

The Matter of Awe: Landscapes in Art
Nov 22, 2025 - Aug 16, 2026

Brick by Brick: The Art of Lego®
Nov 22, 2025 - April 26, 2026

As We Rise: Photography from the Black Atlantic
Dec 6, 2025 - Apr 26, 2026

Parisa Ghaderi: For Dancing in the Streets
Dec 6, 2025 - Apr 26, 2026

Decadent Spirit: French Art at the Turn of the Century
May 29, 2026 - Sep 6, 2026

Visit artmuseumgr.org for more information on each exhibition, including full descriptions and images of the artwork.



School Tours and Workshops

Kindergarten through College artmuseumgr.org/school-tours-workshops

Guided school experiences emphasize an interactive and inquiry-based approach to looking at and discussing works of art. During the hour-long tours, museum docents engage students by visiting the galleries and discussing a variety of artwork. Students have time to make quality observations, draw meaningful connections, communicate deeply about the visual arts, and practice critical thinking skills.

Activate the material covered on your tour by allowing your students to apply skills during hands-on art making lessons. Students work with the Museum's Learning and Creativity Educators and learn methods for creating art using a variety of techniques and media. GRAM workshops are designed to scaffold and meet each student where they are, regardless of grade level. Workshops are typically one hour in length, and available as an add-on experience to a docent-led tour. Choose from a theme listed here or customize a program with GRAM's School Experience Manager that best matches your needs and interests.

- Abstract Art
- Animals in Art
- Current Exhibitions
- Exploring Color
- GRAM's Collection
- Highlights Tour
- Learning to Look
- Made in the Mitten: Michigan Art + Artists
- Sculptures + Sketches
- Storytelling in Art
- Women in Art

Immersive Creativity Classroom

Kindergarten through College

Use the museum as your classroom for day-long immersive experiences! Collaborate with GRAM's School Experience Manager to design your own customized art museum experience, tailor-made to your classroom's goals and needs. Suggested themes:

- **Curriculum Connections:** Connect the visual arts to another curriculum area for a specialized interdisciplinary museum experience.
- **Exploring Works on Paper:** Study a select number of works on paper for a unique session highlighting works currently not on view to the public (based on availability).
- **GRAM's Collection:** Explore a specific artist, art movement, medium, process, style, or theme for an in-depth use of our permanent collection's vast resources.
- **Now on View:** Select one of GRAM's current, changing exhibitions as the inspiration for your session and corresponding activities to take a deeper dive into the exhibition experience.
- **Project Based Learning:** Create a specific art museum-based project to support 21st-century skill building.

Guidelines:

- Includes access to galleries, studios, and Creative Learning Center spaces.
- Must be booked with GRAM's School Experience Manager at least one month in advance.
- Programs based on scheduling availability.
- Maximum 32 students per program
- \$250 flat fee per day
- Programs may be booked for 1 day, or multiple days.
- GRAM's Field Trip Fund does not apply to this program.

Early Learners Program

artmuseumgr.org/gram-early-learners

GRAM's Early Learners Program helps children ages 3 to 5 discover all the museum has to offer through activities designed to increase fine and gross motor skills; further cognitive and emotional development with discovery and play; and activate interpersonal communication. Choose from a menu of tours, workshops, and Discovery Gallery experiences to best meet your PreK group's needs. Available program themes include: Abstract Adventures, Artistic Animals, Exploring Prints, and Sculpture Creations.

District Days

District Day at GRAM celebrates local art students and educators by reserving GRAM's Creative Learning Center or Auditorium to host a district-wide art show. Participants receive discounted admission to GRAM on the day of the event and can enjoy the Discovery Gallery and GRAM's current exhibitions on view during their program event. Dates based on availability, and can occur on Thursday evenings, or during the day on Saturdays or Sundays. Booking fees apply.

Professional Development

artmuseumgr.org/educator-professional-development

GRAM offers professional development sessions for schools and districts wishing to provide a unique educational opportunity for their educators. Choose from available themes or contact GRAM's School Experience Manager to create an experience to best meet your needs.

Creativity Night for Educators

Thursday, October 2, 2025 @ 4:30 pm - 8 pm

The Flourishing Learner: Using Art and Mindfulness Practices to Develop Communication, Creativity, and Well-being in the Classroom and Beyond
Saturday, December 6, 2025 @ 8:30 am - 12 pm

Social and Emotional Learning Through Art
Thursday, February 26, 2026 @ 4:30 pm - 8 pm

Making Creativity Visible
Saturday, March 21, 2026 @ 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Field Trip Fund Program

artmuseumgr.org/field-trip-fund-info

For eligible PreK-12 Michigan schools, GRAM's Field Trip Fund Program covers student admission and participation fees for school tours and art-making workshops and provides transportation reimbursement to assist with bus expenses. Any Michigan school that receives free or reduced lunch support for at least 40% of their student population is eligible to participate in GRAM's Field Trip Fund program.

Eligibility requirements are based on the Michigan Department of Education School Nutrition Program Data and based on economic need. Groups must pre-register and schedule their reservation with GRAM's School Experience Manager at least 4 weeks in advance of their desired visit date to be considered for fund support, based on date availability. The Field Trip Fund Program can be accessed for as long as funds are available.

Creativity Lab

Book this studio experience as an add-on workshop following any gallery experience for a student-directed artmaking session.

Participants receive prompts and a variety of artmaking supplies to experiment with a wide range of techniques and processes, resulting in a unique art project inspired by their own ideas and artistic choices.



Imaginative Play Kits

Book a session to use GRAM's new Imaginative Play Kits! Each participant will use an individual kit filled with a dozen creativity-inspiring playful objects to activate their imagination during the session.

Sessions are \$30 per 30 minutes with a maximum of 30 participants.

