

Dear Principal or Head of School,

We at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art encourage you to make the art museum a part of your students' experiential learning this year. The newly revised Indiana Academic Standards for Fine Arts have renewed the efforts of our education staff to tailor their programming to meet both National and State Visual Arts Standards. The new standards explicitly highlight the work of museums in processing, presenting, and preserving artworks. While technology has made viewing artworks in the classroom easily accessible, we maintain that there is no alternative to experiencing art in person. Only in person can visitors understand the true scale, color, depth, and vision of the artist's work.

Museum tours offer interdisciplinary learning experiences that not only meet national and state visual arts standards (select list below) but also integrate important English and Literacy skills as students discuss, compare and contrast, analyze, and interpret artworks.

- Compare one's own interpretation of a work of art with the interpretation of others (VA: Re.7.1.5a).
- Determine messages communicated by an image (VA: Re.7.2.3a)
- Interpret art by referring to contextual information and analyzing relevant subject matter, characteristics of form, and use of media (VA: Re8.1.41)
- Recognize that people make art (VA: Cn11.1.P).
- Through observation, infer information about time, place, and culture in which a work of art was created (VA: Cn11.1.4a).

FWMoA is committed to extending authentic art experiences to all schools and grade levels in an effort to present art museums as inclusive spaces. We offer dynamic historical and contemporary exhibitions in a diverse array of media. We hope you will support your teachers' and students' endeavors to learn outside the formal classroom setting and experience art in person. Thanks to a generous donation from the Lincoln Financial Foundation, public and private schools in the following counties receive free admission: Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells, and Whitley.

We realize that field trips are not always an option and encourage you to look over our list of Gallery on Wheels presentations which bring the art museum to your school! Using works of art from the collection and beyond, the Museum has curated a list of programs that integrate interdisciplinary presentations with object-based learning and visual thinking strategies to aid student's critical thinking, analysis, and interpretation skills.

Information about programs and resources is available online at fwmoa.org/PreK-12. Arrange a visit by calling or emailing Katy Thompson at 260.422.6467 katy.thompson@fwmoa.org.

Warm Regards,



Charles A. Shepard III, President and CEO