

School Tours

School tours are available Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

HOW TO BOOK A TOUR

Plan your visit at least 4 weeks in advance of your desired tour date.

Have your ideal date in mind, as well as several alternative dates. An educator will contact you to confirm your scheduled visit and to discuss your group's interests and needs.

If your students need special accommodations for mobility, sight, or hearing, please tell us at the time you make your reservation.

Call 202.783.7996 to schedule a tour. A confirmation letter will be sent before your scheduled tour date.

TOUR GUIDELINES

One adult chaperone is required for every 10 students visiting the museum. The museum can accommodate a maximum of 40 students per visit.

TEACHER-LED TOURS

Teacher-led tours are permitted 7 days a week in the museum. Please notify the Education Department in advance of the date and time of your arrival so there will be no schedule conflicts. Upon arrival, please sign in at the information desk.

ADMISSION

Admission is free for all student groups. One adult chaperone is admitted free for each group of ten students; admission is \$10 for each additional chaperone.

PARKING

Parking for buses is on the street, as available. Cars can park in nearby garages or at meters.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

NMWA is located two blocks north of Metro Center. Use the 13th Street exit and walk north on 13th Street to the corner of 13th and New York Avenue, NW.

Tour Topics

Come to Your Senses, Grades K-2

Children explore ways to use all five senses when looking at art. Included are objects to touch, smell, hear, and see. This lesson is limited to one group of no more than 20 children.

To Each Her Own, Grades 1-6

During this lesson, students view a selection of works from NMWA's permanent collection and special exhibitions. They hear fascinating stories of important women artists from the Renaissance through the present day, and explore the way each artist has used the elements of art to create a unique work.

You Be the Critic, Grades 3-12

This fun and interactive tour gives students the opportunity to express their opinions, define their preferences, and make aesthetic and critical judgments about works of art in the galleries.

Women, Art, and Society, Grades 7-12

In this lesson, students view a selection of works from the museum's permanent collection, which focus on the social constraints that excluded women from many educational opportunities. This is an excellent survey to complement social studies and humanities classes in the visual arts.

Seeing Through Writing, Grades 7-12

Following a brief introduction to a few works in the permanent collection, students are asked to express their responses to art in writing. This lesson is designed to encourage students to respond creatively to works of art through narrative, letter, and poetry writing. Students are asked to share their writing with the group. Materials are provided. This lesson is limited to 20 students.

Literary Program

National Museum of Women in the Arts Literary Series:

Ludmila Ulitskaya

Friday, March 28, 7 P.M.

General Admission \$10, NMWA members \$7, Students \$5

Ludmila Ulitskaya, now a celebrated author in her native Russia, began her career as a geneticist before losing her scientific credentials as punishment for translating banned books into Russian. Ulitskaya recently gained recognition in the United States with the publication in English translation of *Sonechka* (1998) and *The Funeral Party* (2001), both short-listed for the Russian Booker Prize. She reads from her newest work *Medea and Her Children* (2002).

Role Model Workshops

FREE: Reservations are required, call 202.783.7370. Priority is given to high school and college students. Others may attend if space is available.

Carol Christensen, Painting Conservator

Saturday, March 1, 10 A.M. to Noon

Do you love art, but feel equally drawn to science? Then come learn about a career that will let you combine both your interests: art conservation. Join Carol Christensen, a painting conservator at the National Gallery of Art who has also worked on paintings in NMWA's own collection, for this interactive workshop. She'll discuss and demonstrate this unique and fascinating arts profession, which unites technology and artistic skill to save and repair works of art from past and present. Participants will also have the opportunity to view and handle some of the materials and tools used by art conservators.

Rosemary Feit Covey, Printmaker

Saturday, April 12, 10 A.M. to Noon

Explore printmaking with artist Rosemary Feit Covey. Told in her 20s that she could never make a career as a wood engraver, Covey has proven her critics wrong — enjoying solo exhibitions in international venues and selling pieces to major collections such as the Corcoran Gallery of Art. Covey will discuss her art and career — the challenges and triumphs — and the technique of wood engraving. Then, workshop participants will have the opportunity to make engravings of their own. All materials will be provided.

Writing Our Lives with Patricia Elan, Author

June 23 - 27, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. daily

For high school juniors and seniors and college undergraduates

Discover your creative potential and develop your skills as a writer in this workshop with Patricia Elan, author of *Breathing Room* (2002, nominated for a Hurston Wright Foundation Legacy Award) and teacher of English and creative writing at Duke Ellington School of the Arts. During daily meetings with the author, explore the personal essay and other creative forms through discussion, writing, video viewing, and other activities. All materials will be provided.

Spring 2003 Free Family Programs

Musical Museum: Russia in Music, Words, and Pictures (Sunday, March 2, 2-5 P.M.) Family Opera Program presented with *The Washington Opera for children 8-11 accompanied by an adult; space is limited, reservations required*

Look at portraits of Imperial Russians in the museum's galleries, create the names and personalities for players in a story, write dialogue for an opera libretto, compose an overture, create costumed puppets for the new opera, and combine these elements in an operatic performance fit for a tsarina!

Tales, Traditions, and Tzarinas: A Celebration of Russian Arts (Sunday, April 6, 12-4 P.M.)

Family festival for children 5 and older accompanied by an adult; reservations not required

Celebrate the diverse artistic traditions of Russia through music, theater, art, games, storytelling, and hands-on activities. Featuring the Classika Theatre's interactive version of the Russian tale *Peter and the Wolf*; the Washington Balalaika Society playing traditional music; and songs, folktales and games with Elena Bogatyreva.

Picture Yourself in Russia (Sunday, May 4, 1-3 P.M.) Family program for children 6-12 accompanied by an adult; reservations not required

Find out how women artists and patrons helped shape the lively art scene of 18th-century St. Petersburg. Explore the grand settings and fine clothing of the fashionable Russian royal court, and then create a portrait in a grand setting of your own design (optional: bring photos to collage into your portrait).

Lecture Series:

Power and Patronage: Women, the Arts, and the Russian Court

General Admission \$8, students \$5, NMWA members free; fee includes entrance to the exhibition for one hour before the lecture

Women and Palace Culture in Russia

Monday, March 17, 7 P.M.

Discover women's place in Russian palace culture in this lecture with Sheila Ffolliott, professor of art history at George Mason University. She discusses the palaces and collections of the 18th-century Empresses Elizabeth I and Catherine II and the role of the 19th-century tsarinas.

From Moscow to St. Petersburg: Images of Women in 17th- and 18th-Century Russia

Friday, April 4, 7 P.M.

Join Lindsey Hughes, professor of Slavonic studies at the University of London, as she explores the depiction of Russian women in the visual arts and aristocratic women's roles as patrons and collectors in the 17th and early 18th centuries. She considers both the impact of Peter the Great's reforms and the image and cultural activities of his female successors, especially the empresses Anna and Elizabeth.

The Rise of the Professional Woman Artist in Russia

Saturday, May 17, 2 P.M.

Learn about the contributions that women artists made to Russian cultural life. Rosalind P. Blekessley, lecturer in the history of art and fellow of Pembroke College, University of Cambridge, examines the gradual appearance of women artists in Russia, from the foreign artists who portrayed members of the Russian court in the late 18th century to later women who achieved recognition at the Imperial Academy of Arts.