

CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

FOR STUDENTS & TEACHERS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



DOWN TO EARTH EXHIBIT SPONSORED BY



We are so excited that you are joining us at Midland Center for the Arts to experience our museum exhibits! Museums are an amazing way to learn more about the things we think we know a lot about, and discover new art, science, and history that we didn't know existed.

When you come to Midland Center for the Arts, we hope you combine your curiosity and creativity to explore new ideas and moments in time and leave excited and inspired to try new things and learn more.

We've put together this short guide to help you prepare for your museum experience. It contains information for educators, students, and chaperones. We look forward to exploring with you – see you at the Center!

Sincerely,

Katie Miller

Senior Manager of Community & Group Engagement



ABOUT THE CENTER
FIELD TRIPS & WORKSHOPS
THE DAY OF THE FIELD TRIP
VISITOR REMINDERS

3
4
5
6



ABOUT THE CENTER

Some of the first museums opened to the public as early as 1759. By the late 1800's, museums have been appearing all over the world in different states and countries. Museums are important because they hold collections of objects found in nature or created by people. Museums also hold collections of knowledge between shared experiences and moments of lifelong learning. Museums have the important task of preserving or making things last a long time for further generations to view and learn from.

When you think of the word museum you might think it's a giant building full of a bunch of old stuff. But, that is not always the case! Some museums, including the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science & Art, collect contemporary or new objects. Museums work together to share knowledge between each other in forms of collaboration, sharing exhibits, and sharing collections.

Now, our museum isn't as old as some of the first opened ones but it has been around for quite some time. Long before there was a Midland Center for the Arts, the community was making music, staging dramas, painting landscapes and appreciating fine concerts and rare books. The places they gathered in the name of art were diverse. Alden B. Dow believed if every human is allowed the freedom to develop and grow their own unique, innate gifts, they will find limitless results to offer the world.

With Alden's help, the construction of the 200,000-square-foot building was officially deemed complete in 1968. Midland Center for the Arts is a place where art, science, history, music, theater, dance, films, camps, classes and professional world-class entertainers live under one roof!

Midland Center for the Arts is a one-of-a-kind venue where all ages are invited to create as well as appreciate and explore a diverse array of guest artists, internationally known art and science exhibits, professional symphony concerts, award-winning theatre, art classes and more.

- / A 1,500-seat Auditorium
- / A 400-seat Little Theater
- / Art Studio and Rehearsal Rooms
- / IFF STEM Space & Smithsonian Spark!Lab

In addition, the Center houses the Midland County Historical Society that includes historic homes, galleries, archives and research facilities at the Doan Historical Center and Heritage Park on Main Street in Midland.





FIELD TRIPS & WORKSHOPS AT THE CENTER

Cultivate lifelong exploration and learning with one of our many educational programs offered here at Midland Center for the Arts! With experiences featuring art, science, music, and history, there is a program here for everyone! If you have any questions please contact Lauren Honaman at Honaman@midlandcenter.org.

- / As you get started, visit our website at midlandcenter.org/participate/schools-teachers/ in order to fill out a booking request form. Please allow 3 business days for a confirmation of your booking via email.
- / We recommend you book early! All Center experiences must be requested a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the program date.
- / Final confirmation must be made no later than 14 days prior to the experience date. This confirmation includes a total count for the number of students, chaperones, and teachers participating in order for a contract/invoice to be issued.
- / Midland Center for the Arts is not affiliated with Whiting Forest and Dow Gardens; educators do frequently schedule additional activities through the Dow Gardens Tour Department.



THE DAY OF THE TRIP

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Ensure you and your students have been informed they may have to be split into groups upon arrival so educators can escort them to their activities.

Double-check that all students, teachers, and chaperones were included in your invoice. An increase will result in additional charges.

UPON YOUR ARRIVAL

Please have buses enter from West St. Andrews road in our parking lot. One of our educators will be waiting outside the ticket office doors to greet you.

If parents are driving separately make sure they know where to park.

Before museum events begin, your group will be given a brief orientation. Museum rules and other important information will be explained at this time; therefore it is important that both students and chaperones pay close attention.

LATE ARRIVALS

Please note that it may not be possible to extend your trip if you arrive after your scheduled time. If your group arrives late, we will make every effort possible to make sure that everyone can experience as much as possible. Please consider morning traffic when selecting your arrival time.

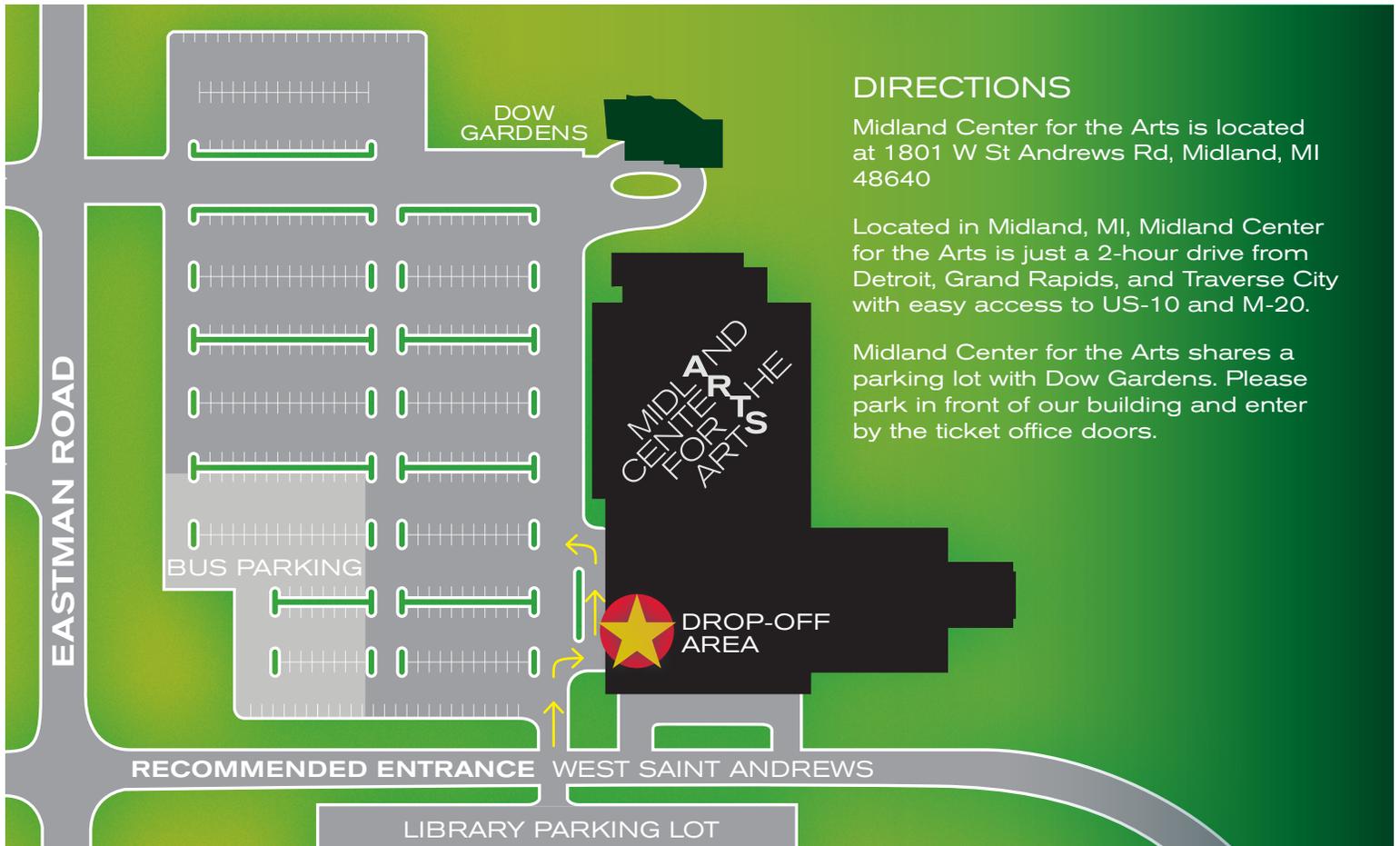
LUNCH SPACES

The Center does not supply lunch. Groups may bring packed lunches to the Center and reserve our lunch facilities at no additional charge.

Lunch times **MUST BE SCHEDULED** prior to your visit, as space is very limited. Lunch is 30 minutes in length unless otherwise indicated; groups will not be permitted to eat lunch at the facility unless arrangements are made in advance.

We recommend large groups visiting Midland Center for the Arts divide into smaller lunch groups as needed.

All groups are subject to a custodial fee for incomplete cleanup of the lunch space.





VISITOR REMINDERS

Museums may have some rules when you visit them, such as not running or not touching the objects on display unless you are told to do so. While these rules are often not very fun, they do serve a very important purpose. When you visit a museum you play a very large role in protecting the objects that are on display! Our hands and fingers contain oils that can damage an object when we touch it. We also have to be careful moving around in exhibit and gallery spaces. Sometimes the items on display are very fragile and we don't want to accidentally bump into something if we are running.

Another big role you play at museums is being an active learner. There are different strategies to help you learn more about a concept, object, or idea!

GENERAL STUDENT RULES WHILE VISITING THE CENTER

- / No running – our brick lobby floor can sometimes be uneven or we might bump into something on display. We don't want to hurt ourselves or the objects on display!
- / Keep an arm's length distance away from the objects on display unless you have been told by a staff member you can touch it.
- / Remember we have oils on our hands that can damage objects on display!
- / When transitioning between activities please keep voices quiet – we are more than a museum! We have workspaces, theatres, and more! We want to ensure everyone is able to focus on what they are creating at the Center, and noise can be distracting.
- / Be an active listener – Our educators love to talk with you and answer questions. Make sure an educator is ready to take your question before you say it!

GENERAL ADULT RULES WHILE VISITING THE CENTER

Not only are chaperones responsible for the behavior and safety of the students, they shape each student's learning experience during the visit. It is important that teachers carefully select and prepare chaperones for their field trip responsibilities.

- / Please remember chaperones are requested to promote "museum manners".
- / We encourage chaperones to interact and engage with the students during the field trip. The more you engage the more students will.
- / Students must remain with their chaperones at all times.
- / It is recommended that chaperones do not bring additional children that are not part of the group to the museum. Additional children will be charged admission.
- / Please limit use of cell phones to taking pictures during your museum field trip experience as part of "museum manners".

midlandcenter.org / 989.631.8250

MIDLAND
CENTER
FOR THE
ARTS