

Social Story for a Museum Visit to the Des Moines Art Center





I am going to visit the Des Moines Art Center. The Des Moines Art Center is an art museum in Des Moines, Iowa. There are many works of art to see.

We can read this story to learn more about how we will enter the museum, some of the people we will meet, and what we can do.



There are two ways to enter the museum. The main entrance has a few stairs that lead into the lobby. I can also use the accessible entrance to the left of the main entrance. This entrance can be used with a wheelchair, stroller, or by anyone who prefers it.



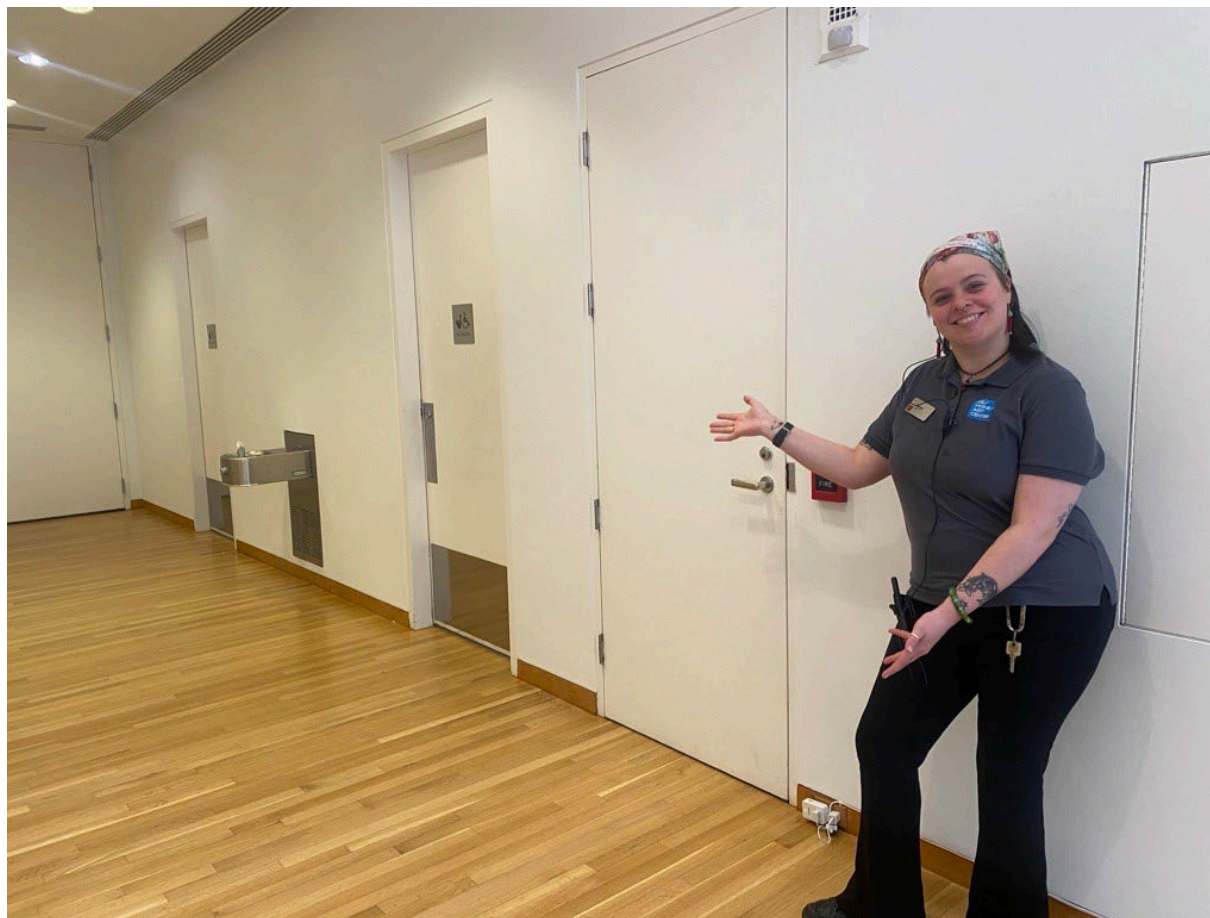
When I enter the museum, I will arrive in the lobby. A museum employee will greet me, offer a map, and help answer questions.



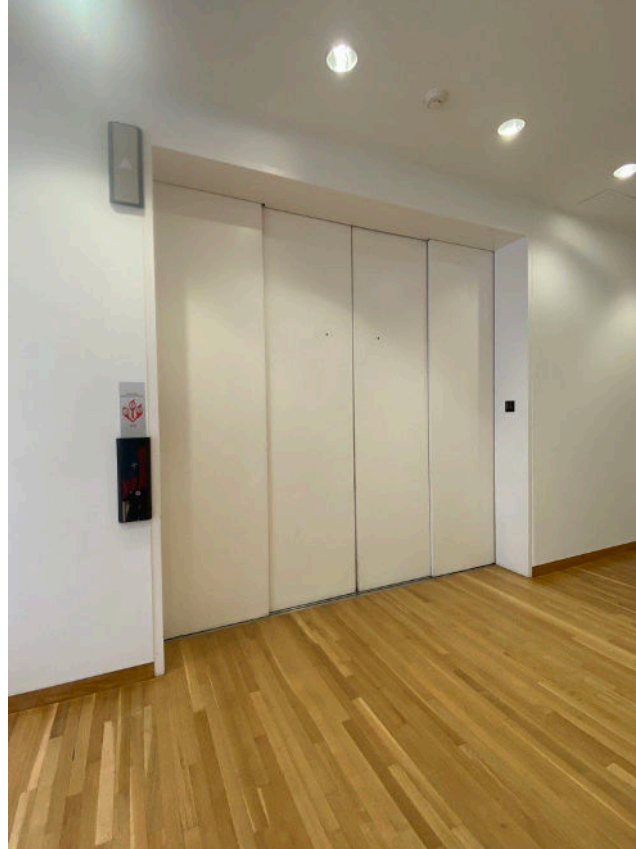
Some items aren't allowed in the galleries like backpacks, food, and drinks. A museum employee can show me where to safely store my belongings.



In the lobby, I can borrow games, fidget toys, and headphones. When I leave, I will return them..



There are restrooms and drinking fountains in the museum. If I need help finding them, I can ask a museum employee.



As I travel through the museum, I can use stairs, an elevator, or a ramp. There are many rooms of artwork, called galleries, to visit in the museum. They all feel different. It is part of what makes the museum an exciting place to explore.



Some gallery spaces are big with tall ceilings, echoing sound, and cool air temperatures.



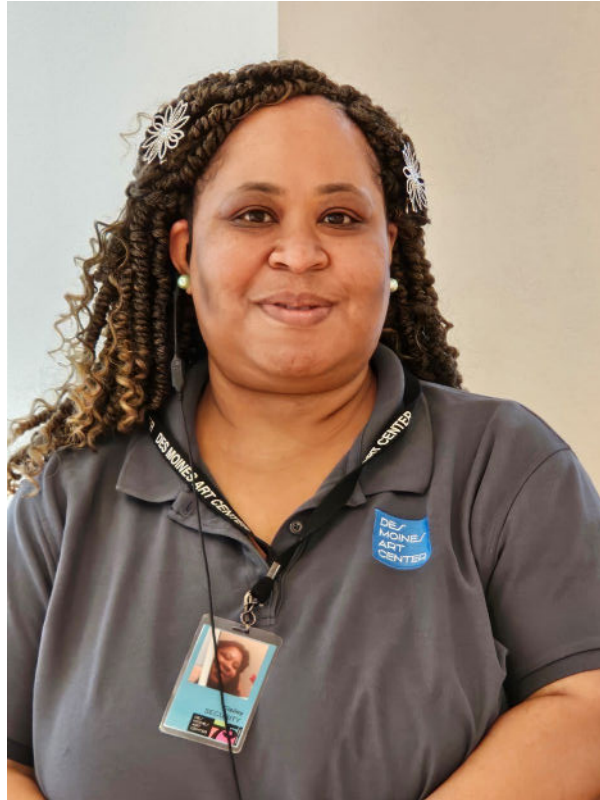
Some gallery spaces are smaller, cozy rooms.



Some galleries are bright, sunny spaces full of windows and light.



The museum may be quiet or busy depending on the time of day.



I will see security officers in the museum. We sometimes call them guardians of the galleries. They will be wearing gray shirts, black pants, and ID badges.

They are here to help people. They keep visitors and the art safe. If I need help or have a question, I can ask a security officer to help me. They will remind me to move back if I get too close to the art or touch the walls.



I may see other spaces in the museum like a café or a museum shop.



There are a few things to remember when I am in the galleries at the museum.
There will be other visitors in the museum at the same time as me.
I will remember to use a quiet voice.
I will always stay back from the art and remember not to touch it.
I will stay with my group and will walk, not run.



When my visit is done, I will exit through the lobby and retrieve any items I may have brought with me.

I may visit the Des Moines Art Center again in the future. Admission is always free.

