What happens when I bring my class to FAM for an ArtLink tour?

During your FAM visit, students will be led by one of our Museum art instructors or docents on a gallery tour of our current and/or permanent exhibitions followed by an art activity in our classroom. (Large groups may be split in half, and half will do the tour followed by the art activity, and the other half will have the art activity first, followed by the gallery tour.) Our art instructors actively engage students in a creative learning experience. Each hands-on art activity is designed to provide students with a fun educational experience which allows self-expression through different art media. The activity gives each student participant an opportunity to produce a take-home piece of student artwork.

Note that high school students often do not participate in the art activity at the discretion of their teacher. Instead, they spend the entire time in the Museum galleries, first experiencing a tour of the exhibitions, and then exploring the Museum on their own and writing an essay, drawing from the artwork, or completing an assignment for their classroom teacher.

What is ArtLink?

The Fresno Art Museum’s ArtLink sessions are the perfect field trip for you and your students to enjoy and experience the many fascinating and wonderful exhibitions that the Fresno Art Museum (FAM) has to offer. The ArtLink program offers exhibition-related hands-on art activities held in FAM’s Education Center as well as guided tours by one or more of our art instructors or docents.

For more information, please contact:

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“Students randomly assigned to receive a school tour of an art museum experience improvements in their knowledge of and ability to think critically about art, display stronger historical empathy, develop higher tolerance, and are more likely to visit such cultural institutions as art museums in the future…. We don’t just want our children to acquire work skills from their education; we also want them to develop into civilized people who appreciate the breadth of human accomplishments. The school field trip is an important tool for meeting this goal.”

— From The Educational Value of Field Trips (2014) by Jay P. Greene, Professor of Education Reform at the University of Arkansas with associates Brian Kisida and Daniel H. Bowen
Frequently Asked Questions

What grades can participate in ArtLink?
ArtLink is available for grades Pre-K to 12. Tours and art projects are adjusted for age-appropriateness and special needs.

How long does an ArtLink tour last?
The guided ArtLink tour is normally one hour, and the art workshop is one hour, for a total of two hours in the Museum. This may be adjusted to a total of an hour and one-half for Pre-K students.

When are ArtLink tours scheduled?
Normal Museum hours are Thursday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. ArtLink tours must be scheduled in advance and can be scheduled any day, except during Museum exhibition changes or when the Museum is closed for special events or holidays. Most are scheduled during the week, Monday to Friday, at 9:30 am but can be scheduled as late as 3 pm in the afternoon. Contact us for availability.

When should I book my ArtLink tour?
It is highly recommended that you book your tour in August or September of each school year to get your preferred visit date, even for a spring visit. Our schedule fills up quickly, and there are usually very few morning time slots available after January.

How do I schedule an ArtLink field trip?
To schedule an ArtLink field trip, please contact us (see back of this brochure) and provide the following information:

- Name of the teacher/organizer
- Name of the teacher that will be accompanying the students (if different from above)
- School or organization name
- Complete mailing address, phone numbers (both school and teacher cell), and e-mail address
- Date you would like for your ArtLink field trip and two alternate dates
- Time of your visit, if other than 9:30 am
- Number of students, chaperones, and teachers
- Grade level/area of study
- Any special needs for your students
- Any special emphasis for your tour, such as an interest in a particular exhibition, or if you are an art club, history club, or have a focus on a particular subject matter

How much does an ArtLink tour cost?
ArtLink fees work out to approximately $7 per student. This covers a tour of the galleries plus an art-making project which includes all materials.

ArtLink tour fees are as follows:
- 15 students and under: $105 *
- 16 to 20 students: $140
- 21 to 25 students: $175
- 26 to 30 students: $210
- 31 to 35 students: $245
- 36 to 40 students: $280
- 41 to 45 students: $315
- 46 to 50 students: $350
- 51 to 55 students: $385
- 56 to 60 students: $420

For every five students, one teacher or chaperone is free. For example, if you have 15 students or fewer, three teachers/chaperones are free. Additional chaperones are $10 each. Payment in exact change for additional chaperones is preferred on day of ArtLink tour. Please note that babies, toddlers, and other siblings of the student should NOT accompany chaperones. The Museum highly recommends bringing at least one adult chaperone for every ten elementary or middle school students or one for every 15 high school students.

The Museum prefers a maximum limit of 60 students per visit, but we can accommodate larger groups by adjusting the type of tour. (Please call to discuss fees and other options.)

When booking, please indicate the number of students and teachers/chaperones you intend to bring. Our art instructors and security are scheduled based on that number. You will be invoiced for that amount. Payment is preferred at least one week before your visit. No reimbursement will be made if the actual number of students falls below those scheduled. Adjustments can be made to add additional students/chaperones if notice is given at least 24 hours before the visit. Any additional fee can be paid at the time of your visit.

Does the ArtLink experience conform to State Standards and Common Core?
Each ArtLink tour and activity is grade appropriate, addresses the California Visual Arts Standards, and supports Common Core. ArtLink allows the children to make connections with what they see and experience in the Museum galleries in creating their own work of art, making the whole museum experience more meaningful. Lessons incorporate many or all of the seven elements of art and often incorporate some math, science, language arts, and social studies.

How can I pay for our ArtLink tour?
Payment by check is preferred, but Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express credit cards may be used. Please be sure to provide the correct address for billing when you book your ArtLink tour. The Museum normally invoices the school six to eight weeks ahead of the tour if time permits. Payments should be made within 30 days. If a purchase order is required, please provide the purchase order number at the time of booking. Payments sent by mail at least one week in advance are preferred.

What if I need to change the date?
If you need to change the date of your ArtLink field trip, please let us know as soon as possible to be sure an alternate date can be selected. If it is one week or more before your scheduled trip, there is no fee charged until a new date is confirmed.

Any cancellation made by a school representative within one week before the scheduled trip will have fees credited towards a future visit during the same school year, if an alternate date is available. A 25% rebooking or cancellation fee will be charged.

If a school representative calls to cancel with less than 24 hours notice, one-half of the total fee will be charged. No-shows will be charged the full amount with no refunds.

Can we eat lunch at FAM?
Your group may choose to bring lunch or a snack to enjoy outside in FAM’s Sculpture Garden, weather permitting. (A limited number of tables and chairs are available as well as some grassy areas.) We just request that children refrain from climbing on sculptures and respect the outdoor space. Please let us know if you would like to use the Sculpture Garden when you schedule your tour.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & RESOURCES TO PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT, GO TO OUR WEBSITE:

www.fresnoartmuseum.org/artlink