A Note to Teachers

We’re so excited that you’re bringing your students to the High! As you prepare for your visit, please consider that many students have never been to the Museum. Preparing them for what they will see, do, and how they will be expected to behave is key to a successful experience.

Please discuss Museum manners with students prior to their visit. Please ask your students to stay an arm’s length away from the artwork. The works of art in the High Museum are rare, and it is important that students know that they cannot touch the artwork, as it damages the works of art. This will help ensure that other students will be able enjoy and to learn from them for many years to come.

As might be expected in an art museum, there are works of art depicting nudity. Please be aware that guided tours will not focus on these artworks, but as you walk through the galleries, your students may notice some representations of nudity. We realize that this can be a sensitive issue for students and as you are the expert on your students, you know best how to prepare them. Below is language that may be helpful:

For centuries artists have studied hard to learn how to draw, paint, and carve works of art. They study landscapes, animals, and humans to learn how to create a realistic likeness. By studying human anatomy and drawing from nude models, artists are trained to depict the human body. Artists from antiquity to today continue this tradition, using the human figure in formal studies of form, light, and composition as well as in narratives of human experience. When we tour the High Museum of Art, you might see some of these works of art.

If you or any of your parents want more information about what the students might see, or other suggestions on how to prepare students, please contact Meghan McFerrin, Coordinator of School and Teacher Services, at 404-733-4461.