Summer Institutes: Teaching the Humanities through Art
Frequently Asked Questions

About the Museum

Where is the Smithsonian American Art Museum located?

8th and G Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

The Smithsonian American Art Museum is comprised of two buildings: the main building and the Renwick Gallery. The Summer Institutes take place in the Smithsonian American Art Museum’s main building. This historic building is located in the Penn Quarter neighborhood, a few blocks north of the National Mall, and is shared with the National Portrait Gallery.

The Renwick Gallery is located on Pennsylvania Avenue at 17th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., across the street from the White House.

General information about the Museum’s locations and hours, a neighborhood map, local transportation, and parking can be found at https://americanart.si.edu/visit/saam.

What are the Museum’s hours?

The Smithsonian American Art Museum is open from 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily. The Renwick Gallery is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. Both are closed on December 25.

What are the closest Metro stops?

The Museum’s main building is conveniently located above the Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail station (Red, Yellow and Green lines). It is also within three blocks of the Metro Center Metrorail station (Red, Orange, Blue, and Silver lines). Metro hours, fare information, and maps are available at www.wmata.com. The DC Circulator (Georgetown-Union Station line) and several Metrobus lines also serve the Museum’s neighborhood. Hours, fare information and maps are available at www.dccirculator.com and www.wmata.com/bus.

Is parking available onsite?

There are several paid parking lots and garages near the Museum, and there is limited on-street parking at meters.
Travel to the Institute

What are the closest airports?

Located four miles south of the Smithsonian American Art Museum along the Potomac River and accessible on Metrorail's Yellow and Blue lines. Taxi fare to downtown ranges from $12 to $15.

Located 27 miles west of Washington, D.C., and offering a full range of domestic and international flights. The Silver Line Express Bus provides service between the Dulles main terminal and the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail station for $5 each way. Taxi fare to downtown is approximately $60.

Baltimore/Washington International Airport – www.bwiairport.com
Located 30 miles north of Washington, D.C., with over 670 domestic and international flights. There are multiple ground transportation options to Washington, D.C., including train, taxi, SuperShuttle and BWI Express bus. One-way fares range from $7 to $60.

What is the closest Amtrak train station?

Union Station – www.unionstationdc.com
Located less than one mile east of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and accessible on Metrorail’s Red line.

Local Hotel and Restaurant Information

What hotels are within walking distance of the Museum?

Courtyard by Marriott
Convention Center
900 F Street, N.W.
www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/wascn-courtyard-washington-convention-center/
202-638-4600
800-393-3063 (reservation line)

Grand Hyatt
1000 H Street, N.W.
www.grandwashington.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels-grandwashington/
202-582-1234
888-591-1234 (reservation line)

Hay-Adams Hotel
800 16th Street, N.W.
www.hayadams.com/
202-638-6600
800-853-6807 (reservation line)

The Henley Park Hotel
926 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
www.henleypark.com/
202-638-5200
800-222-8474 (reservation line)

Hotel Monaco
700 F Street, N.W.
www.monaco-dc.com/
202-628-7177
800-649-1202 (reservation line)
What dining options are within walking distance of the Museum?

Breakfast and lunch will be provided at the Institute each day, and are included with the cost of attendance. The Museum’s Courtyard Café is also open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. There are also many excellent restaurants within a few minute walk of the Museum.

For dinner suggestions in the Museum’s neighborhood, the following links may be helpful:

- Search by the “Penn Quarter/Chinatown” location to find nearby options: https://washington.org/find-dc-listings/restaurants
- Browse Washingtonian’s lists of best restaurants, cheap eats, and restaurant reviews: https://www.washingtonian.com/sections/food/

Where can I find more information about visiting Washington, D.C.?

Explore these websites to find out more about other attractions, events, and museums in Washington, D.C., during your visit.

www.timeout.com/washington-dc/

www.washington.org/100-free-and-almost-free-things-do-dc/