A Social Narrative for Visiting the Walker Art Center

Walker Art Center
I’m visiting the Walker Art Center. The Walker is a museum filled with art from the last 100 years. Before I arrive, I will reserve a timed admission ticket to let me enter the museum. I can arrive any time within my 30-minute entry window. If I am late, staff can switch my entry time when I arrive, though I may have to wait a few minutes before I can enter.
I will help keep myself and others safe from COVID-19 by wearing a **mask** that covers my nose and mouth when I visit. If I forget to bring a mask, staff members will give me one. I will also make sure to **wash my hands** before and after my visit. At the Walker, I can wash my hands in the restroom, and hand sanitizer will be available if I need it.
Walker staff are cleaning the space frequently to keep everyone safe, so I may notice that I smell cleaning products when I’m inside the museum.
When I arrive, I will leave my coat and bags in my car if I drove. I will enter through the Main Lobby on Vineland Place. I will see other visitors and the front desk. If I did not come by car, I can put my belongings in a locker behind the front desk. I can use a quarter to operate the locker and it will be returned to me when I am finished. If I do not have a quarter, staff at the desk will give me one.
In order to help keep myself and others safe from COVID-19, I will keep at least 6 feet away from people I did not come to the Walker with. There will be black dots on the floor in the Main Lobby to help me remember to keep my distance from others.
Walker staff members will welcome me. Then they will **scan my ticket** and give me a tab that will let me into the galleries. Some exhibitions and artworks at the Walker include sound, videos, bright light, or low light. Staff at the desk can tell me which galleries have sound, which are quieter, and which have bright lights or low lights.
I can bring my own headphones or fidgets from home, or at the Main Lobby desk I can request some objects to bring with me during my visit such as **sunglasses**, **fidgets**, or **pencils** and **notepads**. These are mine to keep after my visit.
Art is fragile and can be damaged easily by touching or spilling food or drink. Throughout my visit to the Walker, I will follow these rules of behavior:

- **Hands stay off** the art. I can keep my hands in my pockets or use a fidget when looking at art.
- I will keep **two big steps** between myself and the art and other people.
- I can take photos of the artwork **without flash**.
- I can **eat, drink, or chew gum only in the restaurant**.
Now it’s time to explore the museum. I can take the stairs or the elevator. If I choose to take the elevator, I will follow the guidelines of how many people can ride the elevator at once.
There are assistants in the galleries to make sure that people and the art stay safe. They might ask me to take a step back from the art or other people. But I didn’t do anything wrong: sometimes I get excited and accidentally get too close!

The gallery assistants are nice and can answer questions I might have such as “what is your favorite piece of art in this gallery?” or “who is your favorite artist?”
If I need a break, I can go to the Main Lobby, the Cargill lounge, or sit on a bench in a quiet gallery. Staff can tell me what areas of the museum are quiet and how to get there.
When I am ready to leave the museum, I will return to the Main Lobby. When I go home, I can share my favorite piece of art that I saw with my family or friends. The Walker Art Center is fun to visit!
If you have additional questions, email access@walkerart.org or call 612.375.7564 to speak with a Walker staff member.