



# Huntsville Museum of Art

## Thematic Tours

To book a tour, contact Education Department at [ismith@hsvmuseum.org](mailto:ismith@hsvmuseum.org) or 256-535-6372.

### ***A Walk Through Time: The Story of Art***

This tour starts in our interactive exhibit *A Walk Through Time*, which highlights major eras in art history. A trained docent guides guests through this interactive space and continues to related works on view throughout the galleries. Guests get to experience a condensed view of the history of art with replicas of famous works of art from cave paintings to impressionism and beyond.

### ***Images of People: Portraits and Self-portraits***

Guests are taken on an introspective journey through portraiture. Many questions can be examined, such as, how the depiction of people has changed over time? What has been the purpose and importance of portraits and self-portraits in different historical periods? The tour takes a close look at different types of portraits and self-portraits, examining the development of different styles.

### ***Stories and Myths: Traditional and Historical Paintings vs. Folk Art and Outsider Art***

This tour focuses on the cultural and historical elements of art. What does it mean for art to be traditional or folk art? How do these artworks differ and how are they similar? How do interpretations of one's environment affect their artwork? How do real or mythical ideas come across in artworks from different historical periods?

### ***Artists and Their Environment: Nature and the City***

Throughout history, artists have depicted both natural landscapes and manmade environments. This tour focuses on landscape paintings from natural and urban environments. What does *en plein air* mean? How does an artist compose a landscape? What makes a work of art a landscape? Have media images or artworks affected the modern ideas of nature?

### ***How to Look at Art: Being an Engaged Viewer***

This tour gives guests the tools and skills they need to engage with art on both a visceral and theoretical level. What is the first step in interpreting art? How does one interpret the artists' intent of a piece of work? What should the viewer look for when seeing a new work of art for the first time? How do artists fool our eyes and control our reactions? This tour is a great fit for those guests who enjoy exploring art on their own, but are hoping to cultivate their ability to look at, appreciate, and think about images and objects.

### ***Art Across the Curriculum: S.T.E.A.M. Tours***

This tour introduces and enhances knowledge that students have learned in all subject areas. A trained docent takes students through current exhibits and explores how art relates to science, technology, engineering and mathematics while viewing and discussing artworks currently on display. Students will also get the opportunity to make a piece of artwork related to the S.T.E.A.M. initiative and enhance what they learned on their tour and in the classroom.