

**BEYOND BRONZE:
Tour of Indoor Sculptures at
Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park**



Michele Oka Doner
Beneath the Leafy Crown, 2009
Terrazzo aggregate, Mother of Pearl, Bronze

Teacher Packet



George Segal
Woman in Armchair, 1994
Bronze



Dale Chihuly
Gilded Champagne Gardens Chandelier, 2002
Glass and Steel



Roy Lichtenstein
Bonsai Tree, 1993
Pewter and Bronze, painted



Deborah Butterfield
Small Dry Fork Horse, 1978
Sticks, Mud, Grass and Wire

Tour Overview

In a fun, hands-on tour, students will closely examine five to ten interior sculptures created by modern artists. Each sculpture has been chosen to highlight a different, often unusual, artistic medium from glass to mud to plaster. Artists represented are some of the best-known contemporary American and international sculptors including Dale Chihuly, George Segal, Jacques Lipchitz, Anthony Caro, Roy Lichtenstein, Deborah Butterfield, Michele Oka Doner and Henri Laurens.

In addition to discovering the ever-widening range of materials possible for creating sculpture, students will focus on artistic styles (realistic, abstract, non-objective), sculptural forms (relief or free-standing) and creative methods (additive, subtractive and assemblage).

Whenever possible, the sculpture gallery exhibition as well as interactive discovery carts will be included on this tour.

GET MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK!

Our School Tour/Activity Package provides reinforcement of tour concepts with a related 45-minute classroom activity. To complement the *Beyond Bronze: Tour of Indoor Sculptures*, we suggest you combine a gallery tour with our “My Inner Artist” activity.

In this exercise, the students discuss what distinguishes sculpture from other art forms, what an artist needs in order to create sculpture (idea, materials, tools, money) as well as several different creative methods (additive, subtractive, fabrication, assemblage). Students then work in small teams to create a group sculpture. Younger students use clay; older students use scrap metal pieces. Students title their works, and display them in a mock exhibition. (Bring a camera to take souvenir photos of the artwork.)

The Tour/Activity Package cost is \$5 per student. This cost includes admission, tour, room rental, materials and instruction fees. Maximum seating capacity: 50 students. For more information, or to schedule your group, please call Suzie Doten at 616-974-5239.

Art Vocabulary

Abstract	Art that does not have easily recognizable subject matter; non-realistic.
Additive	A method of sculpting in which the artist builds up a three-dimensional form by continually adding malleable material.
Assemblage	An artistic composition made by assembling different objects or materials.
Bronze	A metal alloy composed of copper and tin that is ideally suited for casting sculptures.
Cast	A sculpture produced with a mold.
Contemporary	Art being made today.
Cubism	An art movement in which the artist analyzed forms, broke them down into a series of shapes and lines and reconstructed them in a new form.
Deconstruction	A process of breaking down a shape into smaller units.
Figurative	Art representing a figure.
Free-standing	Sculpture that does not emerge from a background plane and is completely three-dimensional.
Maquette	A small model made by a sculptor as preparation for a larger finished work.
Modernism	An art movement associated with artistic styles of the twentieth century.
Narrative	Art intended to tell a story.
Non-objective	Art that does not have recognizable subject matter.

Patina	A chemical substance added to sculpture for color in order to achieve an intentional aesthetic effect.
Pop Art	An art movement in which the artist focused on commercialism and everyday objects.
Realistic	Accurate representation of subject matter.
Relief	A type of sculpture in which the subject is carved or modeled from a flat background plane.
Sculpture	The art or practice of creating three-dimensional forms.
Subtractive	A method of sculpting in which the artist continually removes material to achieve the desired form.

Michigan Curriculum Benchmarks and Standards

Visual Arts

Content Strand – Analyzing in Context

All students will analyze, describe and evaluate works of art.

Elementary School

2. Identify various purposes for creating works of visual art.

3. Understand there are different responses to specific artworks.

Middle School

2. Observe and compare works of art that were created for different purposes.

3. Describe how materials, techniques, technology, and processes cause responses.

High School

2. Identify intentions of artists, explore the implications of various purposes, and justify analyses of purpose in particular works.

3. Describe how expressive features and organization principles cause responses.

Content Strand – Arts in Context

All students will understand, analyze, and describe the arts in their historical, social, and cultural contexts.

Elementary School

3. Demonstrate how history, culture, and the visual arts can influence each other in making and studying works of art.

Middle School

3. Analyze, describe and demonstrate how factors of time and place influence visual characteristics that give meaning and value to a work of art.

High School

3. Analyze relationships of works of art to one another in terms of history, aesthetics, and culture, justifying conclusions made in the analysis and using conclusions to inform personal artwork.

Classroom Activities

These activities are suggestions for enhancing your visit and can be adjusted for all grade levels.

Write an Art Review

Have the students assume the role of an art critic. Use the photos included in this packet and assign the students different pieces to analyze. Ask them to write an article of 200 words or less. Encourage humor and creative thinking.

Ask an Artist

Review the list of artists whose work is included on the tour. Have small groups pick a favorite artist and research his/her career. Then compile a list of questions that you would like to ask that artist about the piece on the tour.

Decisions, Decisions

Pretend you are a sculptor and you have been commissioned to create a work for Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. Make a list of the decisions you would have to make (size, material, placement, etc.). Make a detailed preliminary drawing of the work and indicate the answers to the decisions.

Name Game

Before your tour print out the five images of sculptures included in this teacher packet but omit the titles of the works. In small groups, ask the students to create a name for each sculpture. As a class, vote on your favorite title. Bring the list to your tour, and compare your titles with those of the artist.

You Be the Sculptor

Make sculptures based on the works discussed on your tour. Use found objects such as toilet paper rolls, buttons, pipe cleaners or anything else you can find.

Helpful Websites and Reference Materials

Sculptures on the Web

General information about many of the artists whose works are part of the Meijer Gardens Sculpture Collection can be found at www.meijergardens.org or www.sculpturesitesgr.org.

For specific information about individual artists go to:

Arman	www.armanstudio.com
Caro, Anthony	www.anthonycaro.org
Chihuly, Dale	www.chihuly.com
Lichtenstein, Roy	www.lichtensteinfoundation.org
Oka Doner, Michele	www.micheleokadoner.com
Segal, George	www.segalfoundation.org

Sculpture Books

Causey, Andrew. Sculpture Since 1945. Oxford University Press, 1998.

Curtis, Penelope. Sculpture: 1900-1945. Oxford University Press, 1999.

Greenberg/Jordan. The Sculptor's Eye: Looking at Contemporary American Art. Delacorte Press, 1993.

Reference books about most of the artists whose works are a part of the Meijer Gardens sculpture collection are available at the Peter M. Wege Library at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.