Seattle Guide: Visual Arts
Compiled by Jeanette Mills, VRA

🌟Google Map: Visual Arts

Museums

There are other museums in the Seattle area, but the ones listed below focus most on the visual arts and related culture. If you have time to travel farther afield, ask about museums in Portland, Tacoma, La Conner, Bellingham, and Vancouver, BC.

Bainbridge Island Museum of Art
Take the Bainbridge Island ferry (http://bit.ly/1MyQYuL) from downtown Seattle and a short walk to visit this museum, which opened in 2013 and is free. They typically have several small shows at the same time.
http://www.biartmuseum.org/

Bellevue Arts Museum
BAM is the premier craft and design museum in the region. Sound Transit bus route 550 (http://bit.ly/1kKSAiB) will take you from downtown Seattle to within a block of the museum.
http://www.bellevuearts.org

Burke Museum
Washington State’s museum of natural history and culture, which includes exhibits of objects made by First Nations people and other Pacific Rim cultures. It is on the University of Washington campus.
http://www.burkemuseum.org/

Chihuly Garden and Glass
On the Seattle Center grounds, this building and garden feature the work of glass artist Dale Chihuly.
http://www.chihulycg.com/

CONFERENCE SPECIAL: Special Combo Ticket with Space Needle: A discount to the adjacent Space Needle is also offered in combination with Chihuly Garden and Glass. The combo ticket is $33.60 with taxes and both must be visited in the same day. The promo code and website will be found in an email shared with conference participants.

Frye Art Museum
A local treasure with a historic collection and temporary exhibits that often focus on contemporary art. It is located on First Hill, which is uphill from downtown. Admission is always free.
http://fryemuseum.org/

Henry Art Gallery
Located on the west edge of the University of Washington campus, this museum has a reputation for showing cutting-edge contemporary art.
https://henryart.org/
CONFERENCE SPECIAL: Free admission with conference badge (Closed Mondays & Tuesdays)

Museum of Glass
Near the Tacoma Art Museum, the Museum of Glass was envisioned as a center that would nurture artists, celebrate the dramatic new Studio Glass movement and encourage creativity. This vision is realized through the exhibitions in the galleries, the art installations on the outdoor plazas, the hands-on art studio, and the Museum’s diverse educational programs, as well as the Hot Shop. Take the #594 bus; trip is about an hour each way (traffic-dependent).
https://museumofglass.org/
CONFERENCE SPECIAL: $2 off $15 admission with conference badge (Closed Mondays & Tuesdays)

Nordic Heritage Museum
3014 NW 67th St, Seattle, WA
http://nordicmuseum.org/
CONFERENCE SPECIAL: $2 off the $8 admission with conference badge (Closed Mondays)

Northwest African American Museum
The only museum in the Pacific Northwest to focus on African American history, culture, and art.
http://www.naamnw.org
CONFERENCE SPECIAL: $2 off admission with conference badge (Closed Mondays & Tuesdays)

Pacific Science Center
https://www.pacificsciencecenter.org/
200 2nd Ave N, Seattle, WA
CONFERENCE SPECIAL: 20% off exhibit admission with conference badge

Seattle Art Museum
The largest art museum in the Puget Sound region, it is located in downtown Seattle. SAM also has the Asian Art Museum on Capitol Hill and the Olympic Sculpture Park on the waterfront between downtown and the Seattle Center.
http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/
CONFERENCE SPECIAL: 50% for admission; 10% off in shops with conference badge (Closed Mondays & Tuesdays)

Tacoma Art Museum
Near the Museum of Glass, the Tacoma Art Museum serves the diverse communities of the Northwest through its collection, exhibitions, and learning programs, emphasizing art and artists from the Northwest and broader western region. Take the #594 bus; trip is about an hour each way (traffic-dependent).
http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org/

Located at the heart of Seattle’s International District (also known as The ID or Chinatown). Exhibits feature culture and art. 
http://www.wingluke.org/
CONFERENDE SPECIAL: $7 admission (regularly $14.95) with conference badge (Closed Mondays)

Public Art

Seattle is famous for its public art. Here are three resources for exploring on your own.

4Culture
This cultural services agency for King County has Map 4Culture, an interactive map that provides information about public art and more in Seattle and throughout the county. 
http://map.4culture.org/

Seattle Office of Arts & Culture
This webpage provides links to a series of PDF guides to public art in the city. 
http://www.seattle.gov/arts/maps-and-apps

STQRY
This app is used by both the city and county to share information on public art. The city’s page above provides links to the app and to web-based use of STQRY.

Galleries

Seattle has many, many art galleries. Below is a somewhat selective list. A more exhaustive list may be found on the Art Guide website.

Downtown

Abmeyer + Wood
Contemporary art by nationally recognized artists from the region and beyond. 
http://www.abmeyerwood.com/

Facère Jewelry Art Gallery
This is the place to visit if you love jewelry, both contemporary and antique. 
http://www.facerejewelryart.com/

Mariane Ibrahim Gallery
Contemporary art with a focus on international artists who promote social change. 
http://marianeibrahim.com/

Patricia Rovzar Gallery
Primarily shows paintings with some sculpture. 
http://www.rovzargallery.com/

Seattle Municipal Tower Gallery
Features mostly regional art. Other city galleries are listed on the same page.
http://www.seattle.gov/arts/galleries

Traver Gallery
Best known for showing glass and clay but also exhibits paintings.
http://www.travergallery.com/

Vetri
Glass creations in many forms.
http://www.vetriglass.com/

Woodside/Braseth Gallery
Shows work by many major regional artists as well as artists from farther afield.
http://www.woodsidebrasethgallery.com/

Pioneer Square/International District

ArtXchange Gallery
Contemporary art from around the world.
http://artxchange.org/

Azuma Gallery
Traditional and contemporary art from Japan, including prints, ceramics, basketry, and jewelry.
http://www.azumagallery.com/

Bryan Ohno Gallery
Features work that blurs the line between art and science.
http://www.bryanohno.com/

Davidson Galleries
Works on paper from a variety of time periods.
https://www.davidsongalleries.com/

Foster/White Gallery
Contemporary painting, sculpture, and glass.
http://www.fosterwhite.com/

G. Gibson Gallery
Fine art photography and contemporary painting, drawing, and sculpture.
http://www.ggibsongallery.com/

Gallery 110
Primarily shows emerging artists.
http://www.gallery110.com/

Gallery4Culture
A different King County artist is featured each month.
http://galleries.4culture.org/

Gallery I | M | A
Features painting, glass, ceramic, fiber, and sculpture.  
http://www.galleryima.com/

Greg Kucera Gallery  
Regional and national painters and sculptors.  
http://www.gregkucera.com/

James Harris Gallery  
Contemporary painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, video, and installations.  
http://jamesharrisgallery.com/

Linda Hodges Gallery  
Contemporary painting, sculpture, and photography from the West Coast and beyond.  
http://www.lindahodgesgallery.com/

Platform Gallery  
Features contemporary painting, sculpture, and photography.  
http://www.platformgallery.com/

PUNCH Gallery  
An artist-run gallery with a regional focus.  
http://punchgallery.org/

Roq La Rue  
Primarily shows contemporary pop and surrealist art.  
http://www.roqlarue.com/

SOIL  
A gallery run by a collective of local artists.  
http://soilart.org/

Stonington Gallery  
Northwest Coast and Alaska Native and Native-style art.  
http://www.stoningtongallery.com/

Belltown/Pike Place Market

Gallery Mack  
A variety of artists who create paintings, sculpture, and glass work.  
http://www.gallerymack.com/

Lisa Harris Gallery  
Showing contemporary paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture, and photography.  
http://www.lisaharrisgallery.com/

Northwest Woodworkers Gallery  
A cooperative of fine woodworkers.  
http://www.nwwoodgallery.com/

Steinbrueck Native Gallery
Primarily features Northwest Coast First Nations art.
http://www.steinbruecknativegallery.com/