Family Gallery Guide: Highlights Tour
Welcome!
Visiting the Museum is a great way to spend time together as a family. Use this guide to explore the galleries and to give you some ideas about how to talk about and investigate the artworks together. Share your ideas with each other. These questions are open to interpretation!

Can you think of things in your house that might tell people in the future more about you if they were found together? (For example, a toothbrush and toothpaste)

What do you think archaeologists might learn from finding all of these objects buried together?

Why do you think Hadrian might have wanted to be shown as a mythological character?

One of the uses of this sculpture was to affirm vows. What kind of promises do you make? How do you seal the deal? Make a list of other ways people make treaties, covenants, deals, or bargains that you know about.

Can you find another form of Shiva in this gallery? How are they similar or different?

One of the figure’s legs and other parts of his body have been eaten away by termites, small bugs that primarily eat wood. Look at the other works in this collection and consider other ways they have been or could be damaged.

How would you want to be shown if someone was going to carve a sculpture of you?

Objects that help identify a god or goddess are called attributes. What kind of attributes is Shiva Bhairava holding? Can you find more gods or goddesses who have defining attributes in this gallery or in the Weinburg Gallery?
Harriet Frishmuth (American, 1880–1980)
*Joy of the Waters*, 1920
Bronze
Lent by Virginia W. Crawford (L-713)
Modern and Contemporary Galleries

This sculpture depicts a young woman frolicking in water. Her posture and the title of the work suggest that she is either bathing or playing in water.

What is she looking at? Why is she jumping?

Bernardino Fungai (Italian, 1460-1516)
*A Saint-King*, ca. 1490
Tempera and gilt on wood panel
Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation (61.74)
European and American Gallery

What do the clothing and objects in the painting tell you about the individual?

Compare and contrast this painting with another portrait in the gallery.

What would you wear and what would you have in your portrait?

What would you hope people in the future would be able to tell about you when looking at your portrait?

Daniel Garber (American, 1880–1958)
*River Bank*, 1910
Oil on canvas
Transferred from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, MU (2004.86)
Modern and Contemporary Galleries

How might you describe the colors in this painting? How do artists use different colors and techniques to show nature?

Does the water have a feel of movement? Compare and contrast the way other artists depict water in their painting.

How does the painting make you feel?

Duilio Barnabè (Italian, 1914–1961)
*La Serveuse (The Waitress)*, ca. 1959–1961
Oil on canvas
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. George Schriever (86.66)
Modern and Contemporary Galleries

Can you see the different geometric shapes used in this painting?

If you were to draw a picture of a person, what geometric shapes would you use?

Do you see the shades of light and dark in the painting? How do they make you feel?
Nam June Paik (Korean, 1932–2006)
Antennalope, 1996
Multi-media assemblage
(2000.2)
Gilbreath-McLorn Museum Fund
Modern and Contemporary Galleries

Why do you think the artist created an animal shape out of mechanical objects instead of simply creating a realistic looking antelope?
What kind of message do you think he is trying to send?

The Bamana Antelope headdress in the Non-Western gallery shows the same animal as Paik’s Antennalope. How are they similar or different? Which do you think looks more like the real animal?

Grace Hartigan (American, 1922–2008)
The Gallow Ball, 1950
Oil and newspaper on canvas
(2002.27)
Gilbreath-McLorn Museum Fund
Modern and Contemporary Galleries

What can you tell about how Grace Hartigan created this painting?
What do you think her arms and legs were doing as she painted The Gallow Ball?

Follower of Rembrandt van Rijn (Dutch, 1606–1669)
Abraham’s Sacrifice of Isaac
Ca. second half of the 17th century
Oil on canvas
(61.83)
Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation Kress Study Collection (K1633)
European and American Gallery

This painting is very similar to a painting by the famous artist, Rembrandt. It is so similar in fact, that some scholars believe the two paintings must have been painted side by side. The original Sacrifice of Isaac by Rembrandt is now located in the Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Rembrandt van Rijn
(Dutch, 1606–1669)
Sacrifice of Isaac, 1635
Oil on canvas
The State Hermitage Museum

Why do you think someone might have painted a painting that was almost exactly the same as one painted by Rembrandt?
What similarities or differences can you find?

Grace Hartigan (American, 1922–2008)
The Gallow Ball, 1950
Oil and newspaper on canvas
(2002.27)
Gilbreath-McLorn Museum Fund
Modern and Contemporary Galleries

What can you tell about how Grace Hartigan created this painting?
What do you think her arms and legs were doing as she painted The Gallow Ball?

Rembrandt van Rijn
(Dutch, 1606–1669)
Sacrifice of Isaac, 1635
Oil on canvas
The State Hermitage Museum

Why do you think someone might have painted a painting that was almost exactly the same as one painted by Rembrandt?
What similarities or differences can you find?