

Museum Etiquette

How to Attend an Art Opening:

To help you maintain a level of maturity worthy of an art gallery setting, follow these rules:

1. Respect the space you are in and use common sense. It's not a football field, it's an art gallery so no shouting please.
2. Feel free to indulge in some tasty hors d'oeuvres. However, do not spend the entire event hanging out at the refreshment table. You are there to examine, contemplate and mingle - not to fill up on finger food.
3. Before expressing your thoughts to the artist or others attending the show, take time to think about the art and what it means to you.
4. Don't barge in on a conversation. While it's perfectly ok to "lurk", it is just bad form to step into someone else's private discussion without being invited.
5. Do not touch the art - no ifs, ands or buts. Skin oils can seriously damage paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts.
6. While it's just fine (if not recommended) for a few breath mints, keep the chewing gum and candy wrappers at home. All food items (including gum) should be disposed of before entering the galleries
7. When viewing a work of art, keep in mind that you are not alone. Do not stand in front of a piece for longer than a few moments at a time. You can always come back to take a closer look.
8. For students, walking only is permitted. There is no running, shoving, or pushing
9. Leave umbrellas and backpacks in the coatroom or lockers near the security desk.