MUSEUM GUIDE

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS
MUSEUM

The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) is the only major museum in the world solely dedicated to championing women through the arts. With its collections, exhibitions, programs, and online content, the museum inspires dynamic exchanges about art and ideas. NMWA advocates for better representation of women artists and serves as a vital center for thought leadership, community engagement, and social change.

BUILDING

1250 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005-3970

The museum is located in a 1908 Classical Revival style building that was constructed as a temple for the Masons, an organization that did not allow women members. Masonic symbols can still be seen on the exterior. In 1983, the museum’s founders purchased the building and, after extensive renovations, opened to the public on April 7, 1987, as the National Museum of Women in the Arts.
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The accessible elevator is located behind the security desk.

Restrooms are located in the Great Hall, Mezzanine, and near the passenger elevators on the third floor.
SEE FOR YOURSELF

Cards correspond to selected works from NMWA's collection and special exhibitions. Use them to engage with artworks, discover fascinating facts, and reflect on your experience.

Download the current pack

COLLECTION

Discover the museum's collection, which highlights connections between historical and contemporary works of art. The galleries delve into topics addressed by women artists through time and around the world.

EXPLORE THE THEMES

- Roots To Routes
- Rebels With A Cause
- Built To Order
- Family Matters
- Space Explorers
- The Great Outdoors

Photo by Kevin Allen
HIGHLIGHTS

Lola Álvarez Bravo, *De Generación en Generación* (detail), ca. 1950; Gift of the artist; © 1995 Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona Foundation

On view: THIRD FLOOR

Kimsooja, *The Earth*, 1984; Thread, Ink, and Acrylic on Cloth, 75.5 x 117 cm.; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Courtesy of Kimsooja Studio; © Soo Ja Kim; Photo by Lee Stalsworth

On view: THIRD FLOOR
Amy Sherald, *They call me Redbone but I’d rather be Strawberry Shortcake (detail)*, 2009; Gift of Steven Scott, Baltimore, in honor of the artist and the 25th Anniversary of NMWA; © Amy Sherald; Photo by Lee Stalsworth

On view: **THIRD FLOOR**


On view: **THIRD FLOOR**

**On view: THIRD FLOOR**

Hung Liu, *Winter Blossom (detail)*, 2011; Woodblock print with acrylic ink, 32 1/4 x 29 3/4 in.; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Steven Scott, Baltimore, in honor of the artist and the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the National Museum of Women in the Arts; © Hung Liu

**On view: THIRD FLOOR**

Jennie Augusta Brownscombe, *Love's Young Dream (detail)*, 1887; Gift of Wallace and Wilhelmina Holladay; Photo by Lee Stalsworth

**On view: THIRD FLOOR**
INFORMATION

MUSEUM HOURS
Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sun., noon–5 p.m.; Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day.

RENOVATION
The museum building will close August 9, 2021, for a major renovation, with plans to reopen in late 2023. Visit nmwa.org/renovation for more information.

ADMISSION
NMWA Members free, Adults $10, Seniors 65 and over $8, Students $8, 18 and under free.

VISIT AND CONTACT

MUSEUM

nmwa.org
800-222-7270
202-783-5000

Broad Strokes blog

FACILITY RENTAL

202-783-7367

LIBRARY & RESEARCH CENTER

202-266-2835

MEMBERSHIP

866-875-4627
member@nmwa.org

VIRTUAL TOURS & FIELD TRIPS

Book a tour
reservations@nmwa.org

MUSEUM SHOP

shop.nmwa.org
202-783-7994

Cover: Mildred Thompson, Magnetic Fields (detail), 1990; Oil on canvas, 62 x 48 in.; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of the Georgia Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Georgia Committee and the National Museum of Women in the Arts; © The Mildred Thompson Estate; Courtesy Galerie Lelong & Co., New York

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1250 New York Avenue, NW
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@WomenInTheArts