

MYSTIC MUSEUM OF ART

Birthday Frequently Asked Questions

Can younger siblings attend?

Yes. Parents are welcome to keep younger siblings entertained while the older children are participating in the guided art activity. Younger siblings participating in the art activity however must be included in the total number of children attending the party to cover materials costs.

Is there a refrigerator we can use?

Yes. The party host may have access to a mini-fridge in the studio space. Space may be limited, so it is suggested that the host request use ahead of time. The freezer space is not large enough for an ice cream cake, so coolers are recommended.

What size tablecloths should we bring?

Our tables are 72" x 30" and fit six-eight children per table.

Should we bring our own trash bag and clean up equipment?

We provide trash bins, bags, broom, and dustpan. The party host may use these to clean up after the party celebration. The art instructor is responsible for cleaning up the art project only. The following is expected of the party host:

- All tables and chairs are wiped clean
- Floor is swept or mopped if necessary (ex: juice spill)
- All papers, food and other trash are disposed of in provided receptacle
- Decorations removed from space

May party guests' parents stay during the party?

Of course! It is important during the art project for the MMoA instructor to have the children's full attention. We recommend that adults not chaperoning the art activity be courteous of the instructor and socialize outside of the studio space, as to not distract children.

How does parking work?

Parking is available on the far right side of the building next to the studio entrance. The party host and guests receive free parking for the duration of the party (two hours). Guests should take a parking ticket as they arrive at the parking gate, and feed it, then the voucher upon exiting.

What is the Deluxe party schedule?

First Hour: Art Activity led by MMoA instructor (60 minutes or 45 minutes with optional "Eye Spy" Gallery Tour)

Second Hour: Birthday celebration (led by birthday host) – 60 minutes

What are the food options?

The party host supplies food and drink for the guests. We request that you help keep MMoA studios a nut-free zone. Please also remember to keep food simple enough that you will be able to set up and clean up in the allotted time. There are several local restaurants nearby with child-friendly options. Some may even deliver to the museum.

What do we do if there is still time after the birthday celebration?

From time to time party hosts find that there is extra time after cake and presents. We suggest that you plan a few party games that do not include running indoors or around the building grounds in the event you have spare time. The art instructor is not required to lead any of these games. We recommend games such as “Telephone”, “Hot Potato”, “Statues”, “Simon Says”, “I Spy”, “Hangman”, “Mother May I?”, and “Charades”. Our galleries are open until 5pm, and guests are welcomed to visit the rest of the museum until closing time, as long as the studios have been cleaned up and also personal belongings removed.

Party Chaperone and Visitor Guidelines

Birthday Party Guidelines

- There must be one adult chaperone present for every six children during the party.
- Deluxe Birthday Party attendance is limited to 25 children maximum and 50 total guests.
- Chaperones must be attentive to children and follow established facility guidelines.
- The facility is unlocked and available for set up 15 minutes before the start of the party, unless otherwise arranged. Clean up time must be accounted for within the 2-hour party rental.
- Only non-alcoholic beverages are allowed during Birthday Parties.
- Running inside or outside near the boulders or water is prohibited.
- Chaperones should assist instructor during art project as needed.
- Balloons must remain in the party space.
- No devices with open flames or heating elements are allowed in the space, other than birthday candles and matches.

Facility Guidelines

- No animals are allowed indoors, except for service animals.
- No running or playing. Quiet party games are allowed during the birthday celebration after the art instruction is over.
- Children should use “indoor voices”.
- No touching of the art.
- No entry or exit through any doors other than the main door or studio door. Visitors entering at the main entrance to visit the galleries should exit the way they came.

- No public entry into offices, storage, collections, the library, or the kitchen, without staff escort or permission.
- No open food or drink in the galleries. Closed drinks (with caps, or in bottles) are allowed. Exception: anyone with diabetes or who must have food on hand for medical reasons.
- Shoes must be worn. No bare feet.
- Shirts must be worn
- Cell phone use is not allowed, except in designated areas. Visitors should keep conversations at a low volume out of courtesy for others. Designated areas include outdoors, in the portico (the small gallery between Schuster and Halsey galleries, with the sliding glass door), or in the foyer outside of the studios.

Child Supervision

- Children under the age of 12 should remain with a supervisory adult while visiting the Mystic Museum of Art. MMoA staff will not be responsible for supervising children.

Photography (in galleries)

- Flash photography is not permitted. Photography without flash is permitted as long as it is for personal use only.
- No tripods or additional lighting is permitted without staff approval.

Sketching in Galleries

- Sketching in pencil only is permitted.
- Wet media and easels may only be set up as part of a Mystic Museum of Art program.

Grounds

MMoA's grounds extend to the path by the river. The path itself is a public way. They also include the large ledge of rock in front of the building.

- No dogs are allowed on the grounds.
- Running or playing on the grounds is done so at visitor's own risk.
- No one is allowed on the ledge.
- Picnicking, socializing, lounging on the lawn and patio are permitted, as long as they do not interfere with MMoA events and are kept within reasonable limits. Visitors are expected to leave the grounds as they found them.
- Lawn stakes or anything that would leave lawn or garden altered are not permitted.
- No consumption of alcoholic beverages, fireworks, solicitation, loud music or illegal substances allowed.