

Art of Asia

Grades: 2+

Length of program: 50 minutes – 1 hour, can be adjusted as needed

Requirements: screen or blank white wall in a room that can be darkened

Tour Description:

Students compare and contrast the art from diverse cultures across the Asian continent including China, Japan, India and Southeast Asia. This cross-cultural program offers a window on different ways of thinking, seeing, and creating art. Content can be adjusted to align with classroom curriculum; docents are most fluent in addressing Chinese and Japanese art.

Goals:

- To discover the unique art styles and techniques that are used to represent the traditions, customs and beliefs of Asian cultures
- To comprehend and appreciate the diversity of Asian cultures
- To explore the art in Asian cultures and how it reflects, records, and is shaped by history

Rationale: Far away places can be difficult to envision, but viewing the objects from other parts of our world can help students make the visual leap to understanding. The visual exposure to diverse cultures gives students an opportunity to discern and discuss similarities, differences and cross-cultural influences.

Topics:

- Types of art forms: scroll and album paintings, wood block prints, screen painting, ceramics, cloisonné, sculpture
- Themes in Asian art: nature, funerary beliefs, man's place in the universe
- Art that represents the major Asian religions and philosophies such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, and Confucianism
- Purposes of art
- The cultural, historical and religious symbols and iconography of Asia
- The unique materials and tools used to create art in each culture, such as ink, inkstone, paper and silk
- The "three perfections" of Chinese art: calligraphy, poetry, and painting

To Schedule:

Initiate a program request online or call Phoenix Art Museum's Program Coordinator 5 weeks in advance of your desired program date at (602) 257-4356.