

Museum of Contemporary Photography

School & Teacher Programs

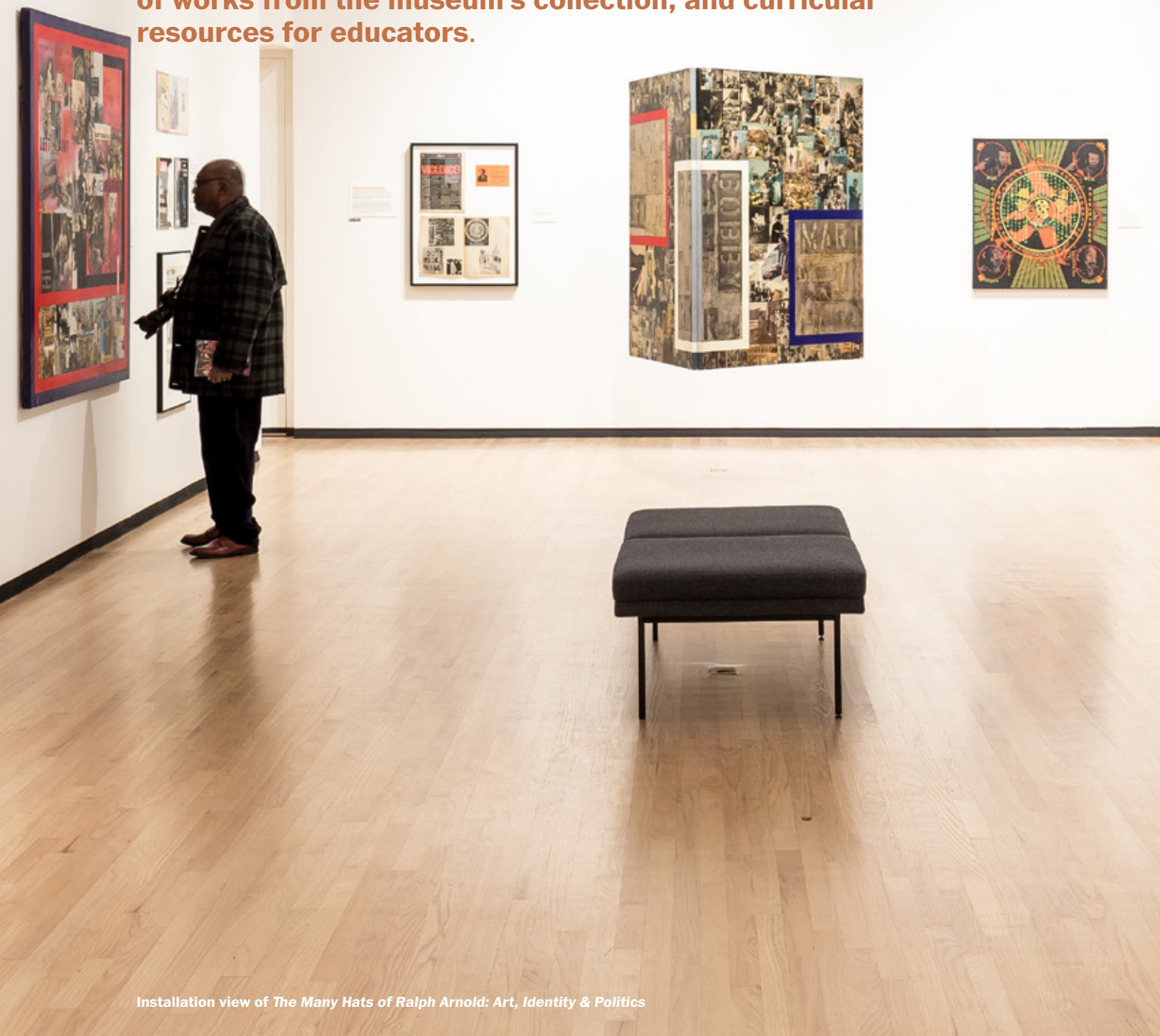
MoCP Museum of
Contemporary
Photography

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO



As a college art museum with a teaching mission, the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago provides a wide range of educational opportunities for students, educators, and the general public.

Discover the MoCP's educational resources, including free docent-led museum tours, private viewings of works from the museum's collection, and curricular resources for educators.



Learning Opportunities

PRINT VIEWINGS

The Museum of Contemporary Photography's permanent collection contains over 16,000 objects, including emerging artists as well as prominent historic work. The museum also holds a revolving collection of portfolios by 65 established and emerging photographers from the Midwest, as part of the Midwest Photographers Project (MPP).

Groups, individuals, and classes may arrange a viewing of prints from the museum's permanent collection and the Midwest Photographers Project (MPP). Print viewings are offered free of charge. A member of the MoCP's staff will be present to handle the artworks.

For a docent-guided presentation, you may select one of the topics listed [here](#).

- [Fundamentals of Photography](#)
- [Portraiture and the Human Subject](#)
- [Constructed and Staged Images](#)
- [Landscape and Place](#)
- [Approaches to Documentary](#)
- [Photography as Social Practice](#)
- [Queerness and the Image](#)
- [Picturing Chicago](#)

For a self-led discussion, you may select up to 20 collection objects or five MPP portfolios. Please note that if you choose this option, docents will only be available to handle the works but will not lead the presentation. To help create your list of requested work, you can view the entire collection online [here](#).



Photos at Noon: Portraiture and the Human Subject

Learning Opportunities

Exhibition Tours

Docent-led tours can be arranged for classes or visiting groups free of charge. A member of the MoCP's staff will guide visitors in discussion through the current exhibition. Education Guides for exhibitions are available on the exhibition web page. It is advisable that instructors read over the guide prior to visiting with students. Find Education Guides [here](#).

Curricular Guides

Curricular Guides for select print viewings and themes in the permanent collection are available on the museum's [website](#). These guide outline Illinois Learning Standards and are free as printable downloads to use within your classroom.

- [The Photographers of the New Bauhaus](#)
- [Dorothea Lange and the Documentary Tradition](#)
- [Street Photography](#)
- [Robert Frank and The Americans](#)
- [Still Life: The Object as Subject](#)
- [Collage](#)



(Left) Artist Nathaniel Mary Quinn leads a discussion on his work
(Right) MoCP teen summer intern at the museum

Opportunities for Columbia College Chicago Students and Faculty Members

Internships

The MoCP provides educational opportunities for students interested in the museum profession and related fields by employing both graduate and undergraduate students from Columbia College Chicago. Interns at the MoCP receive comprehensive practical experience at an AAM-accredited museum. These paid internships provide students with a professional skill set helping them to acquire competitive jobs after graduating.

If you are a current undergraduate student at Columbia College Chicago interested in applying, please send a resume and cover letter to Stephanie Conaway at sconaway@colum.edu. If you are a current or incoming graduate student, please send a resume and cover letter to Kristin Taylor at ktaylor@colum.edu.

Museum Immersions Course

The MoCP periodically offers a one-credit course called Museum Immersions that utilizes the museum as a classroom for students of all majors to engage in critical thinking discussions and projects around the work in one exhibition over five weeks. Students will interpret the concepts and inspiration behind each artist's work into a final project that may be presented in any medium. Currently enrolled students interested in this course should search "Museum Immersions" in the course catalog for scheduling information.

Faculty Advisory Committee

The MoCP seeks input, ideas, and suggestions on how to better reach students on campus from the faculty of Columbia College Chicago. If you are faculty at Columbia College Chicago and are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Kristin Taylor at ktaylor@colum.edu.



A print viewing led by a Columbia College Chicago graduate student

Additional Programs & Continuing Education

Bus Subsidies

The MoCP offers bus subsidies to schools in need. Requests must be submitted on the “[Schedule a Tour or Print Viewing](#)” form at least three weeks prior to requested date of field trip and must be approved by the MoCP in advance. The school is responsible for making all transportation arrangements directly with the bus company and the MoCP can either pay the invoice directly or reimburse the bus expense.

Family Day

Family Days at the MoCP allows kids and adults to explore exhibitions through interactive workshops, kid-friendly exhibition tours, and other fun activities. Check [here](#) to find upcoming family programs.

Teen Programming

MoCP Teen Nights and Teen Workshops are free opportunities for teens to engage critically with photography through maker workshops, artist conversations, and more. These programs are often teen-led and have something for everybody. Check [here](#) to find upcoming teen programs.

Photos at Noon

On select Fridays, the museum opens up its Print Study Room to the general public for learning sessions based on themes in the permanent collection. Learn about some of the museum’s best works that are normally behind closed doors and meet fellow photography enthusiasts. These sessions are free and open to all. Check [here](#) for upcoming Photos at Noon sessions.

Photos at Zoom

Photos at Zoom is the digital webinar version of Photos at Noon. Hosted virtually on Zoom, these interactive digital courses are free and open to the public and cover similar topics to the in-person sessions. Photos at Zoom sessions are recorded and transcribed [here](#), along with supplemental resources.

MoCP Behind the Lens

[MoCP Behind the Lens](#) is an entirely virtual program hosted on Zoom that provides participants the unique opportunity to get a sneak peek into the artist’s studio and ask questions about their work.



Teens displaying their work during Teen Night

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a cost for admission?

The MoCP is free but we welcome a \$5 suggested donation per person.

How many people can I bring in my group?

The museum can only accommodate a maximum of 30 people per print viewing or tour. For larger groups, back-to-back viewings may be scheduled when possible.

Is the MoCP accessible to those with disabilities?

If you need special accommodations for your visit, please contact mocp@colum.edu

How long in advance should I schedule my group visit?

Groups must schedule at least two weeks in advance through filling out the “[Schedule a Tour or Print Viewing](#)” form on the museum’s website.

Can I drop in with my students for a self-guided tour?

We recommend still filling out the “[Schedule a Tour or Print Viewing](#)” form in advance, even if you do not require a docent for your visit. Due to the small size of the museum, it is best to schedule your visit with any group over 10 people to avoid crowding the galleries. This is subject to change due to Covid-19.

When can I attend a guided tour or print viewing?

Print viewings are by appointment only on Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Thursdays until 7:30 pm.

Can I drop off my students unattended?

No. At least one instructor must be present with groups at all times.

Are food and drinks allowed in the museum?No.
To ensure the safety of the artwork, no food or drink is allowed inside the museum.

Am I allowed to take photographs inside the museum?

Photographs without the use of flash are permitted. Please tag us on Instagram @mocpchi if you post images of your visit!

Where should our bus park?

Buses can drop off in front of the museum’s doors on the Michigan Avenue, but then must relocate until pick-up time.

Where can we eat lunch? Is there a café onsite?

The museum does not have its own café but there are several sit down and fast food restaurants nearby. The museum can make arrangements for groups visiting from K-12 schools to eat sack lunches in one of the Columbia College Chicago classrooms. If you would like to make special lunch arrangements, please reach out to Kristin Taylor at ktaylor@colum.edu at least two weeks prior to your visit.

If bringing bagged lunches, groups can choose from two locations to dine:

Outside Uncovered

GRANT PARK

- Grassy and shaded park with picnic tables.
- No reservation required.
- We recommend you bring wet wipes or easy clean up and blankets for your group to sit on.

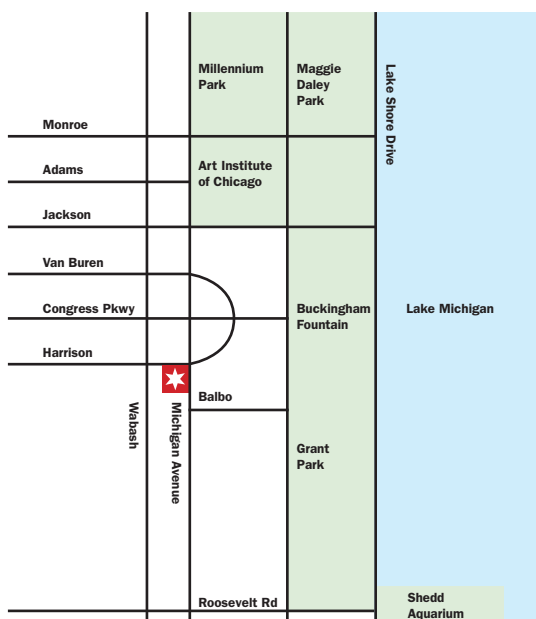
Inside

Columbia College Chicago

- Indoor classroom with tables and chairs.
- No kitchen facilities or microwaves.
- Reservation required.
- Trash must be put into garbage bins and room returned to its original condition after using.

Transportation and Directions

The Museum of Contemporary Photography is located at **600 South Michigan Avenue** on the corner of Michigan Avenue and Harrison Street.



Public Transportation Info

CTA

Red Line to Harrison

Pink/Brown/Orange/Purple Lines to Harold

Washington Library

Blue Line to LaSalle

Metra

Van Buren Street Station

Parking

The museum does not have its own parking lot. Several paid lots are available nearby on Wabash Avenue, one block west of the museum. Meter parking is also available on Harrison Street or Wabash Avenue.

Please Note

The museum reserves the right to dismiss visitors who violate the safety of MoCP staff, fellow visitors, and art. Failure to abide by MoCP Covid-19 guidelines as well as general safety regulations will result in being asked to leave the museum.



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mocp.org

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