Gallery Games
Try these fun games in any gallery with any work of art.

Audio Tour + Digital Guide
Download the “Bloomberg Connects” mobile app, then look for the icon on the artwork labels.

Spotlight Talks
Daily 15-minute talks at 1 pm & 1:30 pm, included with admission

On View at Phillips@THEARC (1801 Mississippi Ave, SE)
Wesley Clark Centennial Commission

PhillipsCollection.org  |  Open Tuesday–Sunday, 11 am–6 pm
Share your experience with @phillipscollection #phillipscollection
AMERICA’S FIRST MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Phillips Collection is home to a growing collection of more than 5,000 works of modern and contemporary art, housed in Duncan Phillips’s family home and additions to it. Phillips referred to the museum as an “experiment station,” and today it retains the founder’s personal stamp. Works by artists of different nationalities, periods, and styles coexist side-by-side in visual conversations within its galleries.

THE COLLECTION

Collector and philanthropist Duncan Phillips (1886–1966) built the foundation of the extraordinary collection you see today. The museum opened its doors in 1921 as The Phillips Memorial Gallery in honor of Phillips’s father, Duncan Clinch Phillips, who died in 1917, and brother, James, who died in the 1918 flu epidemic. Recognizing the healing power of art, Phillips sought to share his “living” collection in a welcoming space and to inspire others to find beauty in the artist’s unique way of seeing the world.

Phillips’s marriage to painter Marjorie Acker (1894–1985) and close friendships with artists helped develop his taste, and he worked enthusiastically to train his eye. Within a few years, the museum’s holdings increased with works from American and European artists, including Pierre-Auguste Renoir’s Luncheon of the Boating Party in 1923 and Jacob Lawrence’s Migration Series in 1942.

As a collector, Phillips was notable for his willingness to deviate from the art museum standard of displaying works together based on nationality and geography. The Phillips Collection became a leader in American art, with a collection of works that are deeply personal, including the first works to enter a museum collection by Milton Avery, Georgia O’Keeffe, and many others. The museum has continued to acquire works by important voices of today.

THE BUILDING

Duncan Phillips originally exhibited his collection in specially built galleries at his family home, an 1897 Georgian Revival house. The grand oak-paneled Music Room was added to the house in 1907. Over time, the building was adapted to include more galleries and offices, particularly after the Phillips family moved out in 1930. In 1960, Phillips added a modernist wing, which was renamed the Goh Annex in 1989 when it was renovated and expanded. In 2006 the Phillips opened the Sant Building, which includes an auditorium and an expanded library. The intimate scale of the original galleries has been replicated in the additions to the museum.

After Your Visit: At-Home Interactive

Discover more about the history of the Phillips’s collection through interactive quizzes and games.

Join Us!

Become a member to enjoy unlimited free admission and walk-in entry. Members also receive shop and program discounts, as well as invitations to exhibition previews and exclusive tours.

To learn more, stop by the admissions desk, visit PhillipsCollection.org/membership, or contact 202.387.3036 or membership@phillipscollection.org.

During Your Visit

PROTECTING THE ART

Please look, but do not touch the artwork. Please keep a two-foot distance. Please carry purses and small backpacks on the front of the body. Do not bring food or drinks into the museum.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visitors are encouraged to take non-flash photos for non-commercial use of the permanent collection and special exhibitions, unless otherwise noted. Photography is not permitted in the Rothko Room. Selfie sticks, video cameras, and tripods are not permitted.

CHECK YOUR BAGS

Leave backpacks, backpack-type child carriers, umbrellas, large bags and packages, and other items larger than 15 x 13 x 7 inches in the complimentary coat check.

MOBILE PHONES

Please silence your phone and limit conversation in the galleries. Free Wi-Fi is available. Please use earphones for the audio guide.

SKETCHING

Sketching in the galleries is permitted with #2 pencil.

ACCESSIBILITY

All spaces are wheelchair accessible; please ask a staff member for assistance. A limited number of wheelchairs are available. Service animals are welcome.

VISITOR CONDUCT

The Phillips Collection is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and comfortable environment for our staff and visitors. Please refrain from disorderly or disruptive conduct that interferes with or distracts from other visitors’ enjoyment of the museum.

Please follow the instructions of Phillips staff. The Phillips Collection reserves the right to refuse or revoke the admission of any visitor who violates these guidelines.