K-12 SCHOOL AND TEACHER PROGRAMS 2025–2026

SUMMARY

At the UMFA, we believe that art objects are an access point to the discovery of global ideas past and present. Visual literacy, critical thinking, and creativity are essential tools for higher education and career-ready students—and they are skills illuminated and practiced across our programming as we explore human connections through hands-on experiential learning, dynamic discussions, and question-based practices.

UMFA K-12 School and Teacher Programs Core Values:

- Provide access to art and art education statewide
- Connect art to classroom learning and Utah Core Standards
- Create personal connections to art, each other, and the world
- Promote critical thinking through visual literacy
- Spark creativity as a life skill for 21st-century learners

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- UMFA special exhibitions: *Relative Truths; salt 17: Adama Delphine Fawundu; Storywork: The Prints of Marie Watt*.
- Ashley Anderson began as UMFA's new Manager of School and Teacher Programs! Ashley jumped into her new role and hit the road to bring UMFA artwork and resources to thousands of students and their teachers.
- Middle school students from Esperanza Academy performed an unforgettable mariachi performance inspired by UMFA's permanent collection of art from Mexico, Central and South America as part of our community celebration, Nuestro Pasado es Presente, on October 18, 2025.

Most common words used by teachers to describe their Museum in the Classroom visit taken from surveys and evaluations:

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

- UMFA's Evening for Educators: Building on a Story Together held in March 2026 debuted our newest teacher resource, Story Cards! Each deck of cards uses UMFA artworks as a springboard for student writing by providing inspiration to describe settings, characters, objects, dialogue, and suggested strategies for writing projects.
- UMFA welcomed thousands of students to the Museum galleries to explore art from around the world through different themes and lenses. This year we continued to work in partnership with both Ririe Woodbury Dance Company and Natural History Museum of Utah to provide unique experiences that merge artforms and highlight exciting STEAM integration for students.

WHAT TEACHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT UMFA PROGRAMS

On Museum in the Classroom:

"This experience was well worth our classroom time. The children were VERY engaged during the entire experience."

On Tours at UMFA:

"This is by far the best field trip I've ever taken my students on in my years of teaching. I'll be back!"

On Teacher Professional Development:

"Everything teachers want a workshop to be."

15,126	students served	89	title one schools
1,081	teachers served	669	facilitated programs
28	school districts	920	instructional hours
281	schools		