



# 2023 S-STEM SCHOLARS MEETING

Washington, D.C.

September 14-16



## Visiting Washington, D.C. Museum Sites

We know that for many of you, this will be your first-time visiting Washington, D.C. and you are excited but have many questions. Here, we give you some general information, tips, and tricks for visiting D.C. Museums.

### Some Sites Require Timed Tickets

All the museums that we listed on the [interest form](#) are free and open to the public. Only a few sites (Capitol Visitor's Center, African American History Museum, and the Air & Space Museum) require timed tickets that you need to reserve in advance. For these sites, we have done our best to get as many timed tickets as possible. If we were unable to get a ticket for you, you are welcome to try to get a ticket on the museum's website on your own, or you can visit one of the other wonderful museums in DC that do not require timed tickets.

Guests are welcome to accompany scholars to museums that do not require timed tickets. If you and your guest would like to attend a museum that does require timed tickets, it will be up to the scholar and guest to book a reserved ticket on the museum's website on your own.

### Getting to the Sites and What to Expect

During scheduled times, groups will meet in pre-determined areas and will be escorted to the museum by a Meeting Mentor or an AAAS staff member by walking. When you arrive at the museum, you can look at the exhibits on your own in a self-guided tour. Scholars will be responsible for arranging their own transportation back to the hotel or to the airport/train station at the conclusion of their time at the museum.

Most sites are a 20-35 minute (1-2 mile) walk from the Marriott Marquis Hotel. [This map](#) shows the location of the hotel and the museum/tour sites. The closest [metro stations](#) to the museums are the Federal Triangle Metro station (located on the Blue, Orange, and Silver Lines), the Archives/Navy Memorial Station (Green and Yellow Lines), and the Metro Center Station (Red Line).

## General things to know:

- At some of the museums, there will be security where you will have your bag searched and you will go through a metal detector, like at the airport
- Museum maps are available at information desks. There are often free tours offered throughout the day, which you can ask about at an information desk
- In general, you will **not** be able to bring food or drink in with you (some museums do allow bottled water; check the websites before going). There are often cafeterias within museum sites that have limited hours
- Many museums have a coat check and lockers you can rent to store your bags/personal items
- Do not touch any art or objects on display
- Please do not lean or sit on any displays or sculptures- please only sit on designated seating
- At the Capitol, please silence your cell phones
- Please respect any areas that are roped off
- Please use respectful language and remember that some places, like the Capitol are working office buildings, so please watch volume levels
- Please refrain from using vulgar language
- Although there is no strict dress code for the museums, the Capitol is a working office building. Please be sure that you dress appropriately and behave in a respectful manner

## Accessibility:

- All tour options have accessible entrances and pathways
- Free manual wheelchair loans are available on a first-come, first-served basis
- Open captioning and audio description are incorporated into exhibition videos
- Tactile and/or verbal description tours and sign language interpretation is available for all public programs and can be arranged by contacting the hosting museum
- For all Smithsonian sites, Aira Access mobile information and verbal description service is available. You can download the free Aira app and learn more on the Aira Access website: <https://aira.io/access-product-learning-platforms/>
- At the Capitol Visitor Center, in-person sign language (ASL) interpretation for tours is available when booked in advance. Contact [Interpreters@saa.senate.gov](mailto:Interpreters@saa.senate.gov) for more detailed information
- At the Capitol Visitor Center, all visitors receive standard assisted listening devices at the conclusion of the orientation film
- At the U.S. Botanic Garden, several resources are available to make visits accessible (including, but not limited to, sensory bags and resources, audio tours, color blind glasses, and visitor guides – available in nine languages, Braille, and large print)
- For more information, visit the websites below:
  - [Smithsonian Accessibility for Visitors](#)
  - [U.S. Capitol Visitor Center Accessibility Services](#)
  - [Accessibility at the U.S. Botanic Garden](#)

## Site Hours, Websites, and Addresses

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### **[Air and Space Museum](#) – Timed Pass Required**

10:00 am to 5:30 pm, Open every day

[6th Street and Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20560](#)

### **[Capitol Visitors Center](#) – Timed Pass Required**

Monday-Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

[First St SE, Washington, DC 20515](#)

### **[The National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) – Timed Pass Required**

10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday; 12:00 p.m.- 5:30 p.m. Mondays

[1400 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20560](#)

### **[National Museum of Natural History](#)**

10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Daily

[10th St & Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20560](#)

### **[Botanic Gardens](#)**

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Daily

[100 Maryland Ave SW, Washington, DC 20001](#)

### **[The National Museum of American History](#)**

10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Daily

[1300 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20560](#)

### **[National Gallery of Art](#)**

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Daily

[6th and Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20565](#)

### **[Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian](#)**

Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[Fourth Street & Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20560](#)

### **[Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden](#)**

Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[Independence Ave and 7th St, Washington, DC 20560](#)

### **[National Portrait Gallery](#)**

Daily 11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

[8th and G Streets NW Washington, DC 20001](#)

### **[National Postal Museum](#)**

Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20002](#)

### **[National Museum of Asian Art](#)**

Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[1050 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC](#)