

LACMA Mobile Programs

FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions

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Which schools can request the program?

Our Mobile Program opportunities are open to Title 1 elementary and middle schools in Los Angeles County that offer 6th and/or 7th-grade social studies classes.

Please note that our Ancient World Mobile truck provides workshops to all 6th grade social studies classes. Our Maya Mobile truck provides workshops to all 7th grade social studies classes.

What if my school is not Title 1?

Although we prioritize Title 1 schools due to generous funding from the Max H. Gluck Foundation, we do consider non–Title 1 schools based on the availability of the mobile classroom schedule.

How can I request the Mobile Classroom Trucks to visit my school?

To request a visit from one of our Mobile Classroom trucks to your school, complete the application form linked above. Please be prepared to provide information about your school, such as a bell schedule, campus map, emergency protocol, contact information for a school liaison, and a roster of teachers that teach 6th or 7th grade social studies/history.

What workshops are included in a visit from the Ancient World Mobile/Maya Mobile?

Our Mobile Classroom trucks offer two workshops: Object Handling and Art-Making.

The Object Handling workshop takes place in a vacant classroom on your campus, where students handle and analyze art objects from LACMA's collection. The Art-Making workshop takes place in the Mobile Classroom truck, where students create art with air-dry clay.

How will students participate in the program?

Classes will be divided into two groups (unless the class has fewer than 15 students total).

One half of the class will go to another classroom on campus for the Object Handling component, and the other half will go to the Mobile Classroom for an art project. The

students will switch components later in the day or the next school day, depending on your school's bell schedule.

How long are your visits to our school? How will the workshops be scheduled?

Our school visits can take anywhere from one to four weeks total, depending on the school's bell schedule, events calendar, and the amount of students participating. (We typically serve between 100–200 students a week). During this time, the truck will remain parked on campus.

We also schedule a “rep day” before the start of our workshops so that our LACMA educators can familiarize themselves with the campus layout, prepare art materials, and briefly check-in with participating teachers to go over any final logistics. This means that even at small schools, our visit lasts at least two days.

See the following [sample schedule](#) for an idea of how we schedule our workshops.

What is required for the Mobile Classroom trucks to visit my school?

In order for the Mobile Classroom truck to visit your school, we require a parking location for the Mobile Classroom truck within your school (not on surrounding streets or staff lots without gates) and a vacant classroom or learning space.

How much space does the truck need to park at my school?

In order to safely deliver and park the truck at your school's campus, we require the following:

- Local streets surrounding the campus must be at least 15 feet wide. If local streets are not at least 15 feet wide, your school must be willing to contact local parking enforcement to temporarily block off the clearance area required for the delivery of the Mobile Classroom truck.
- Your school must have a vehicle entry gate that is at least 15 feet wide.
- There must be an on-campus location that is at least 50 feet long, 15 feet tall, and 20 feet wide where the Mobile Classroom truck can be parked for the duration of our visit.
- The entry and planned location for the Mobile Classroom truck must have a vertical clearance of at least 15 feet, clear of power lines, tree branches, etc.
- The entry and location for the Mobile Classroom truck must be on solid ground, as the truck cannot park or move across grass or dirt.

The mobile program's operations specialist (Derek Gougis) will carry out site visits during the weeks leading up to our visit to assess the delivery and parking of the Mobile Classroom truck. Once the parking spot is confirmed, it is the school contacts'

responsibility to inform necessary school administration and participating faculty of our visit.

When will the truck arrive at my school? How long will it remain at my school?

The truck typically arrives and departs from school campuses during the evening or weekends to avoid pedestrian traffic. The specific time and dates will be discussed in the weeks leading up to our visit.

The truck will remain on your school's campus for the duration of our stay (between one to four weeks depending on the number of participating classes). We do not typically have the truck depart and return to a school within a visit unless it needs to be moved for accessibility reasons or for truck maintenance.

The truck will depart either the evening we conclude workshops or the following weekend.

What if we can't provide a parking spot for the truck?

If the truck is unable to park for any reason, we can still offer workshops to participating students. The Art-Making project, which typically takes place in the truck, would need to occur in the participating teacher's classroom. Please arrange a table or counter space for art supplies and finished student art.

What kind of vacant classroom or learning space do you need?

In order to provide Object Handling workshops to your students, we need a vacant classroom or learning space with the following requirements:

- The room should have enough flat tables and chairs for at least 20 students.
- This room should not be shared with any other classes, programs, events, or staff offices during our stay.
- This room should be accessible for students who use wheelchairs, walkers, or any other mobility support.
- The room should be safe and secure, with a door that can lock in case of an emergency.
- This room should be well ventilated, with windows that can be opened to the outside, as well as a screen to prevent debris and other outdoor materials from entering the room.

What if we can't provide a vacant classroom?

If a vacant classroom is unavailable, we will need to use the participating teacher's classroom for our Object Handling component. If possible, teachers should arrange their classroom to match the following [layout](#).

Please note that we also reserve the right to withdraw from a school if alternative set-ups are not discussed prior to our scheduled visit.

How much does it cost to have this program at my school?

LACMA's Mobile Programs are free to all participating schools due to a generous grant from the Gluck Foundation.

Can I have both trucks visit my school within the same school year?

Due to the volume of applications we typically receive within a school year, and to provide opportunities to other schools in Los Angeles county, we can only visit a school site with one of our Mobile Classroom trucks per school year.

You visited our school in previous years. Will you be visiting again this year?

We strive to maintain fairness in our selection process by rotating among different schools each year, so even if we have visited in previous years, that does not guarantee a visit this year. Thank you for understanding.

I filled out the application form. When will I hear back?

Once your application is submitted, please allow two to six weeks for our administration to review your application. If your school is chosen for a visit from the Ancient World Mobile or Maya Mobile, we will follow up with the Primary and Secondary contacts with further information.

- Schools that request a visit for fall will be contacted in August to early September.
- Schools that request a visit for late winter will be contacted from October to November.
- Schools that request a visit for spring will be contacted from January to February.

Please note that due to the volume of requests for our program, only selected schools will be contacted.

We've been confirmed for a school site visit. Do teachers need to be at a certain part of the curriculum or prepare their students in any way?

No curricular preparation is needed—we like to meet students wherever they are in the curriculum. Prior to our visit we'll have an info session available for teachers that want to know more about our program, as well as a teacher information form to fill out to let us know of any student support, translations, or accommodations that are needed.