

ISABELLA
STEWART GARDNER
MUSEUM

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM ANNOUNCES 'MORNING AT THE MUSEUM'
New Program Offers Meditation and In-Gallery Time Before Public Hours Every Friday



Boston, MA (October 20, 2026)—The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum is pleased to announce [Morning at the Museum](#). Launching Friday, November 6, this weekly pre-hours program offers visitors the opportunity to experience the Gardner at a reduced capacity before public opening. Taking place every Friday from 10 – 11 am, each Morning at the Museum will include guided meditation sessions and the chance to explore the Museum's galleries and contemplative Courtyard. [Images available here.](#)

Morning at the Museum invites visitors to escape their busy lives and daily stresses by seeking beauty, restoration, and creative inspiration at the Gardner. Tickets for this new program will be limited and priced at \$30 for nonmembers and \$24 for members (standard general admission is \$25 for adults and free for members). Each ticket includes a 15-minute meditation session in Calderwood Hall and admission to the Museum's galleries (both the historic galleries and the New Wing's special exhibition space) and popular Courtyard, which rotates through 10 seasonal displays each year. During this special hour before the Museum opens to the general public, visitors may experience a "behind the scenes" encounter—conservators in the Palace galleries, horticulturists tending to plants, or Museum Teachers with a school group. Morning at the Museum is not necessarily a quiet or low sensory hour, but a time for communal tranquility at the Gardner. Visitors will be able to take advantage of reduced capacity to seek a spiritual moment in front of the stained glass of the Chapel, linger and study details in the small Vaticchino, skip the line for the Yellow Room, or enjoy one of the Museum's [audio guides](#) or [pre-recorded Courtyard meditation](#) without interruption.

"For many of our visitors, the Gardner has long been a site of respite—a tranquil place where they can be moved by art as they escape the stresses of their daily lives," says Arthurina Fears, *Esther Stiles Eastman Curator of Education*. "Through strategic discussions regarding the kind of institution we hope to be, and how we wish to serve our communities, the Museum is dedicated to creating more

intentional opportunities for visitors to experience greater well-being and find peace within our chaotic world."

Admission to Morning at the Museum must be purchased online in advance—tickets will not be available at the door. Visitors will be able to choose their meditation timeslot (10:10 or 10:40 am) when reserving their tickets online. Meditation sessions will be led by professional practitioners on a rotating basis—visit gardnermuseum.org/morning-museum for more information.

The whole of the Historic Building, Hostetter Gallery, and Calderwood Hall will be open to visitors during Morning at the Museum. [Gift at the Gardner](#) will open early at 10:30 am for leisurely shopping, while [Café G](#) will open at 11 am (its regular hours) for those looking to conclude their tranquil morning with a coffee or sweet treat. Morning at the Museum attendees are welcome to remain onsite once the Museum opens to the public.

Morning at the Museum follows the Gardner's summer announcement that its popular Free First Thursdays would expand into [Free Thursday Nights](#), which provides free general admission from 5 – 9 pm every Thursday evening. Morning at the Museum provides a unique option for visitors who hope to experience the Gardner in a different light and at a more relaxed pace.

Morning at the Museum will launch Friday, November 6, and take place every week with the exception of the Friday after Thanksgiving, between Christmas Eve to New Years Day, or on any holiday for which the Museum is closed.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum • 25 Evans Way, Boston, MA 02115 • Hours: Open Weekends from 10 am to 5 pm, Weekdays from 11 am to 5 pm, and Thursdays until 9 pm. Closed Tuesdays. • Admission: Adults \$25; Seniors \$22; Students \$15; Free Thursdays from 5 – 9 pm and for members, children 17 and under, and everyone named Isabella • Information: 617 566 1401 • Box Office: 617 278 5156 • www.gardnermuseum.org

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum invites you to escape the ordinary in a magical setting where art and community come together to inspire new ways of envisioning our world. Embodying the fearless legacy of its founder, the Museum offers a singular invitation to explore the past through a contemporary lens, creating meaningful encounters with art and joyful connections for all. Modeled after a Venetian palazzo, unforgettable galleries surround a luminous Courtyard and are home to masters such as Rembrandt, Raphael, Titian, Michelangelo, Whistler, and Sargent. The Renzo Piano wing provides a platform for contemporary artists, musicians, and scholars and serves as an innovative venue where creativity is celebrated in all of its forms.

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