

1. **Is the entire Museum closing?** We understand why the closures may feel significant, but no—the Museum remains open and welcoming to visitors. The Glass Pavilion, Education Wing, Family Center, Library, and Sculpture Garden are all fully operational, with a wide range of programs, activities, and amenities available.
2. **Why is so much closing at once?** This is part of TMA's once-in-a-generation reinstallation project, marking our first full gallery reimagining in more than four decades. Closures have happened in phases: February 2025: Cloister and several temporary exhibition spaces December 2025: Great Gallery and sections of the West Wing April 2026: Classic Court, Wolfe Gallery, East Wing galleries, and Sanda Findley Collector's Corner June 2026: Remaining gallery-level spaces, Herrick Lobby Entrance, Herrick Lobby, and TMA Café This phased approach allowed some galleries to remain open for an additional 18 months, helping minimize disruption while work progressed.
3. **What can I still do when I visit?** Even with gallery closures, TMA continues to offer inspiring and meaningful experiences. The Glass Pavilion remains open with exhibitions and free daily glassblowing demonstrations. Families can create together in the Family Center, learners of all ages can explore classes, workshops, and special events and visitors can enjoy the Café, Store, Library & Archives, and Sculpture Garden There's still plenty to experience while the Green Building undergoes its renovations.
4. **How long will the closures last?** The closures will remain in place for the duration of the reinstallation project, with galleries reopening in fall 2027.
5. **Why are you doing this project?** The Museum's HVAC system had reached the end of its useful life. To safely replace it—and protect the collection—we needed to remove artworks from the galleries and store them securely. This necessary work also gives us the opportunity to rethink how we share the collection. When the art is reinstalled, visitors will experience new gallery layouts, refreshed storytelling, improved accessibility, clearer pathways, and upgraded infrastructure that hasn't changed in decades. This project is designed to ensure TMA remains welcoming, relevant, and inspiring for generations to come. Learn more by watching our most recent Town Hall recording available above
6. **Will admission and parking at TMA remain free?** Yes. General admission and parking remain free. While some programs (such as classes or ticketed events) may have a fee, entry to the Museum and Glass Pavilion is free for everyone—and will continue to be after the reinstallation is complete.
7. **How will the Museum's architecture and overall aesthetic be affected?** Not to worry—the architecture will feel very familiar. Beyond reopening three windows on the Monroe Street side and adding a more accessible north entrance, the building's character will remain largely unchanged. Inside, updates focus on refreshing finishes, repairing or replacing flooring, and improving the flow through the galleries. We regularly share renderings and updates during our Town Hall meetings, and you can check out the most recent recording above.
8. **Will the Peristyle change?** No changes are planned for the Peristyle's design as part of this project and the space will remain open throughout the reinstallation.
9. **Has TMA loaned artwork to other museums or put artwork in to storage?** Yes, but it will be back. In order to install the HVAC system, all the artwork had to be protected, which means it needed to be removed and put into storage. Some of the art was loaned to other museums and will return when the museum re-opens. Lending art is common for museums—for example, the Cursed! exhibition has loaned art from institutions like the Louvre, the British Museum, the Getty, and the Royal Museum of Art and History.
10. **Once the art is re-installed, will the amount of art on display be reduced?** On the contrary. Before the reinstallation, there were 1,200 objects on display. After the museum re-opens, there will be 2,300 objects on display.
11. **Is the overall footprint of the museum changing?** The overall square footage will be very similar, a little larger than it is now.
12. **How does TMA decide what artwork to put on view in the reinstalled galleries?** TMA's primary goal is to have the highest quality collection that demonstrates our commitment to broadening the narrative of art history. The Museum's collection has been acquired over the last 125 years and over that time priorities and patterns of collecting have evolved. As we prepare to install a comprehensive display of art that showcases six centuries of human creativity across six continents, we are prioritizing new acquisitions that fill a variety of gaps in our collection. These gaps include geographic areas, time periods, under-represented artists, and mediums. To date, these acquisitions have included objects like the Cup of Joy, the Crusader Icon, Hale Woodruff's The Underground Railroad, and colorful contemporary Hawaiian quilts just to name a few.

TMA's accordion question-answers about the renovations retrieved from their website on May 20, 2026