Experience Art in Nature

Tours & Workshops 2022

Celebrating 30 years
We offer a wide range of workshops can be adapted to **all ages and abilities**, and we have some exciting new options for you this year.

We want to work closely with you to customize your visit to fit the needs of your group.

Our tours and workshops use nature as a tool to teach art and art history to all ages.

With each workshop there is a short lesson to introduce participants to the materials they will be using. Participants will gain enhanced appreciation for art and nature and a better understanding of art terms and techniques.

“To appreciate and experience art, you need to use all of your senses.”

—Anthony Caponi, founder of Caponi Art Park
Have you ever taken your group to a museum? Why not bring them to the stunning urban oasis that is Caponi Art Park?

While at Caponi Art Park, tour groups are able to break the number one museum rule of “do not touch the art.” We believe that to truly appreciate and experience art you need to use as many senses as possible. Your group will have the unique opportunity to experience one artist’s lifetime of work in our curated outdoor laboratory.

**Tour and Workshop Pricing:**

Guided walking tours with our trained docents are $7 per person with a $50 minimum per group. The price of our workshops includes a tour for every participant.

Contact us about the availability of golf cart tours for participants with limited mobility.

Discounts available for groups of 80 participants or more. Scholarships are also available upon request. Email lauren@caponiartpark.org to learn more.

**About our tours:**

Caponi Art Park now offers two different tour options: our traditional sculpture tour and a new nature tour. When scheduling your tour and workshop, please let our program manager know which tour your groups would like to experience:

**Sculpture tour:**

Sculpture tours introduce participants to the sculptures on the grounds, their creation, materials, and the principles of art they demonstrate. The tour covers some of the most prominent works in the park, as well as a historical timeline of the park. Participants will be able to break a museum’s number one rule and get close to the sculptures in unique ways.

**NEW! Nature Tour:**

Nature tours introduce participants to the flora and fauna that call the park home, our environmental stewardship efforts, and how we’ve integrated several recently-acquired sculptures, by various artists, into the landscape. Participants will also take in the view from the second highest point in Dakota County and visit the park’s Theater in the Woods amphitheater.

Tours are led by trained docents and last approximately 45 minutes to one hour. Please wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing, be prepared to walk on some steep and uneven trails and bring water. The cost for both tours is the same.
Workshops
learn + create

At Caponi Art Park your group will be led on a personalized art experience in our living outdoor laboratory.

Our staff has years of experience teaching art to learners of all ages and our workshops can be adapted to every learner’s ability. Participants will use nature-based materials to learn about art while creating a project they will be proud to display. Our workshops run 45 minutes to an hour.

In addition to the workshops listed here we also have other specially-adapted workshops for groups serving participants with special needs. Contact lauren@caponiartpark.org to find out more about how we can tailor a workshop and tour for your group.

Make sure to check out all of our workshop offerings, including the new additions for 2022.
**NATURE VIEWERS**
Appropriate for ages pre k-7, $9/person
Can you see that spider spinning its web on the sculpture or the tiny bits of moss growing at your feet? In this workshop, you will create nature viewers to get an up-close look at your surroundings. You will use paint, markers and collage to put your personal stamp on your nature viewers. Next you'll go on a guided tour of the park, where you can use your new nature viewers to focus on the different textures, shapes and colors around you!

**PATTERNS OF THE PARK**
Appropriate for ages pre k-7, $9/person
Discover the simple pleasure of running around outdoors with a brightly colored pinwheel. From the natural beauty around the park, you will take rubbings on paper which you assemble into pinwheels. The final product will be a whirlwind of fun as you carry them along the trails during your tour.

**TISSUE PAPER RESIST ART**
Appropriate for ages pre k-10, $13/person
Have you ever thought of tissue paper as a painting tool? We'll show you how! Use what you learn about geometric and organic shapes to create invisible resist art using a white crayon on white paper. Then you will combine bleeding tissue paper and water to make a vibrant multicolored background. Watch your art emerge like magic as the wax resists the color!

**BIRCH TREE RESIST PAINTINGS**
Appropriate for ages 6-adult, $17/person
Learn how to paint the perfect woodland scene featuring birch trees and accompanying leaves using a few simple techniques and materials. You will be guided step-by-step through the painting process and be introduced to new art terms and techniques related to this project. Friends and family will be impressed by everything you learn, and create in this one-time nature-themed workshop!

**SEED MOSAIC: A MINNESOTAN TRADITION**
Appropriate for ages pre k-adult, $10/person
Every year the Minnesota State Fair showcases seed mosaics created by artists from all over the state. In our seed mosaic workshop, you will continue this great tradition by creating your own works of seed art. You will learn about the history and techniques of mosaic art and create a design of your own! Once completed, you will share your design with the group and share this Minnesotan art form with your family.

**MANIPULATED MONOPRINTS**
Appropriate for ages pre k-10, $11/person
Unlike other types of printmaking, a monoprint can only be printed once. You will create an abstract painting on plastic and then print it onto paper. Taking the non-traditional route, you will manipulate your monoprints using black pens. The final product will be unique to each participant, and is sure to impress their family and peers.

**FUN WITH FIBER ART: CIRCLE WEavings**
Appropriate for ages 7-12, $13/person
Weaving is one of the oldest forms of art. In today's world, you can weave using a variety of materials, and different kinds of looms. In this workshop, you will be led through the process of creating a simple loom using repurposed materials, and will produce a colorful, unique weaving using a variety of yarns.

**NEW! 3D LEAF RELIEFS: RAISED TINFOIL ART**
Appropriate for ages 8-14, $14/person
Learn about elements of art as you create a unique 3D relief project! See examples of relief sculptures that our founder Anthony Caponi made! Explore texture, shape and value as you combine tinfoil with leaves and other pieces of nature collected from around Caponi Art Park to create 3D leaf art. You'll be amazed at how these simple materials are used to make a piece you'll be proud to display.
MANDALA ROCK ART
Appropriate for ages 8-adult, $12/person
Keep calm and relax by learning the art of mandala rocks. In this workshop, you will learn the history and meaning behind mandala art, and apply that knowledge to your own mandala rock art. You’re sure to enjoy this serene workshop, and want to share your newly-discovered art form with friends and family.

NEW! WATERCOLOR LEAF PRINTS
Appropriate for ages 8-adult, $13/person
Using watercolor paints and leaves from Caponi Art Park, participants will create a unique and vibrant composition that is sure to stand out. After a lesson about the history of watercolors and some techniques, participants will try their hand at a creative process that is part printmaking and part watercolor painting. Participants will leave with a better understanding of art terms and techniques related to watercolor, and a piece of art they will be proud of!

POINTILLISM PAINTING
Appropriate for ages 6-12, $12/person
Capture the feeling of an old Marvel comic book page, or a Lichtenstein painting, using only dots to compose your picture. Pointillism uses tiny dots of pure color to compose a larger image. Using Q-tips and a variety of paint colors, you will use your imagination to produce a painting that any budding comic artist would enjoy!

ENCAUSTIC PAINTING
Appropriate for ages 8-adult, $25/person
Encaustic painting may have roots in Ancient Greece, but it is still used today by artists like Jasper Johns, Rodney Carswell and Esther Geller. You will learn about the history and methods needed to make your own abstract encaustic painting with pigmented wax. Discover your inner Abstract Expressionist Painter.

NEW! ORGANIC WIRE SCULPTURES
Appropriate for ages 10-adult, $12/person
Select this workshop for the opportunity to create a metal sculpture, just like park founder Anthony Caponi. Working from an image of wildlife or plant life, participants will create their own 3D wire form by bending and shaping metal wire. Finished projects will consist of 3D wire art mounted on a base, culminating in a uniquely organic sculpture fit for installation at Caponi Art Park.

MANDELA ROCK ART
Appropriate for ages 8-adult, $12/person
Keep calm and relax by learning the art of mandala rocks. In this workshop, you will learn the history and meaning behind mandala art, and apply that knowledge to your own mandala rock art. You’re sure to enjoy this serene workshop, and want to share your newly-discovered art form with friends and family.

NATURE JOURNALS: BASIC BOOKMAKING
Appropriate for ages 8-adult, $15/person
* for groups of 40 or less
Engage the natural world through the art of nature journaling. You will learn basic bookbinding techniques to create nature journals prior to your tour. On the tour, you’ll be encouraged to make rubbings and take notes about your observations. These journals will be a showcase of what you observed and learned from your experience at the park and can be used on future adventures in nature, too.

NEW! MONET AT THE ART PARK: PLEIN AIR SPONGE PAINTINGS
Appropriate for ages 10-adult, $14/person
Participants will learn about Monet’s influences on western art and use an untraditional tool to mimic his iconic style of painting. Young artists will pick their own Caponi Art Park scenery to paint in nature, plein air-style. Using sponges instead of brushes, participants will learn how to use color to create shapes and images in the style of the Impressionists.
More Information

Chaperones: We require at least one chaperone for every 10 participants. A chaperone is an adult over 18.
Chaperones must stay with participants at all times and are responsible for their conduct. While our tour guides will set the rules and expectations, their job is to guide the tour and teach the workshop. The cooperation of the chaperones in monitoring the conduct of their group will help us provide the best experience possible for your visit.

In the rare event that a participant’s behavior is disruptive to others, Caponi Art Park staff will ask for additional assistance from the group’s teachers and chaperones. In extreme situations staff reserves the right to ask the participant to leave the park.

Field Trip Prep:
- Review the rules and expectations of Caponi Art Park with your participants before your visit.
- For groups over 20 participants: Your group will be split into smaller tour groups with one Caponi Art Park staff per each small group.
- The park is open to the public during your group’s visit. Please be aware that there may be other visitors in the park.
- There may be mosquitoes, bees, flies, etc. in the park. We recommend bringing insect repellent and preparing participants to see wildlife.
- The tour includes walking about 1 mile. We recommend bringing water, sunscreen, and weather appropriate clothing.
- The park has portable restrooms that are ADA accessible and equipped with hand sanitizer.

COVID-19 Policies and Protocols

Policies for visiting groups: While visiting Caponi Art Park we ask that you maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet between you and your park staff member. We also ask that you keep socially distanced from other park visitors. We strongly encourage visitors to wear masks and to wash their hands frequently.

Park COVID-19 Protocols: Caponi Art Park staff are required to sanitize their hands frequently. All workshop supplies are sanitized before and after use, as well as in between back-to-back groups. Staff will do their best to maintain at least a 6 feet distance from members of visiting groups at all times.

Please visit cdc.gov for the most up-to-date information and guidance on COVID-19.

Group Tour Policies

Scheduling: Tours can be scheduled anytime the park is open, except during public performances and events. We will ask for an estimate of the number of participants in your group to be sure we have the right amount of staff and workshop materials on hand.

To schedule a tour and workshop for your group, or to learn more information on our educational programs, please send an email to lauren@caponiartpark.org, or call the park: 651-454-9412.

Change in the Number of Participants: If you know the size of your group will be significantly different than your original estimate, please contact us two weeks prior to your scheduled visit or as soon as you know.

Rescheduling Policy: If you need to reschedule your visit, we will try to accommodate your request based on availability. Time slots fill up quickly and other times may not be available. Rescheduling is up to the discretion of the program manager.

Weather Policy: If inclement weather (severe weather, extreme temperatures, etc.) is likely, contact the park at least two hours prior to your group’s scheduled visit. Your group is responsible for deciding to cancel or reschedule. In some instances, the program manager may ask that you reschedule your visit for the safety of park staff. If your group chooses to reschedule, we will try to find a new date based on availability.

Payment Policy: Payment may be made at the time of your tour by cash or check, or online via electronic invoice sent following your visit.
Where to find us

The entrance to the park is on the south side of Diffley Road. Look for the large park sign and red gate at the entrance. The park’s address is 1220 Diffley Road, Eagan, 55123.

Arriving at the park

Your tour guide will meet you in the parking lot when you arrive. We suggest arriving 10-15 minutes before your scheduled tour. Tours are about 45 - 60 minutes in length, and workshops last an additional 45 - 60 minutes. We are happy to reserve a picnic area for your group, either before or after your visit, for you to enjoy lunch or a snack. We can also schedule time for your group to explore the park on your own. Please arrange this with the program manager when you book your tour and workshop.

While you’re at the park please:

• Respect those in your group and other park visitors.
• Walk while on the tour—no running.
• Only use your hands to touch the sculptures.
• Do not climb on any of the sculptures, landscaping or walls.
• Listen while your guide is talking so that everyone in your group can hear.
• Ask questions. They help everybody learn!
For more information visit us
www.caponiartpark.org
Or, give us a call
651-454-9412

PARK HOURS:
Closed Mondays
Tues-Sun: 9AM - Sundown