

St. Louis Art Scene: A Feast for the Senses Challenge

St. Louis' art scene is active, vibrant, and engaging. It is filled with music, motion, and artistic expression. Art in St. Louis is easily found: in traditional spaces like museums and galleries, on the street through an impressive array of murals and sculpture, and on the spot through live performance. Even historic places, like Bellefontaine Cemetery, abound with art through their architecture, design, and landscape. St. Louis' art ranges from the transcending to the whimsical. Come explore the St. Louis arts scene, a feast for the senses!



*The St. Louis Art Scene Challenge is sponsored by the **St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce**. The STL Arts Chamber supports artists and arts organizations as they continue building their businesses and the region into a vibrant and kinetic arts community. The St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce advocates for all genres of the arts, from drawing to dance, storytelling to theatre, fiber arts to sculpture, and all creative arts avenues in between.*



St. Louis Art Scene Challenge ... Visit at least 10 art related sites in at least five different categories listed below. Snap your photograph at the location. Click on the map links to explore the sites in each category. Remember: Missouri Explorers must be registered in the program, and they are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites. Upload your verification photographs using the online submission form at <https://missouri2021.org/missouri-explorers/> to receive your merit badge button.

Remember, Missouri Explorers, you are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites before arriving.

Also remember, in St. Louis, masks and social distancing are required.

All Senses: Theater

Performing arts are an integral part of the fabric of St. Louis and have been for generations. St. Louis is home to the second oldest symphony in the nation and the summer tradition of enjoying musical theatre under the stars at The Muny is celebrating its 103rd season. You will find big Broadway spectaculars at the Fox Theatre, innovative productions at Opera Theatre of St. Louis, and intimate and thought-provoking performances at a wide range of theatres like The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, The Black Rep and a host of small theatre troupes. Summer in St. Louis also means Shakespeare in the Park on a wooded hillside in Forest Park and lively musicals at Stages St. Louis. We even have Circus Flora each year under the Big Top in the Grand Center District. Explore St. Louis theater sites by finding the orange markers on the map [here](#).

Auditory Arts: Music

Music has a long tradition in St. Louis. From the 135-year-old Saint Louis Symphony to groundbreaking musicians ranging from Scott Joplin, Miles Davis, Chuck Berry, Ike and Tina Turner, and Nelly, to name only a few who made music history here. Today's music scene is very diverse and can be found in large venues and small clubs every day of the week. Explore the Blues and its impact on modern American music at the National Blues Museum located downtown on Washington Avenue. Later this summer, the Missouri History Museum unveils a music filled exhibition entitled St. Louis Sound opening on August 28, 2021. Explore St. Louis music sites by finding the yellow markers on the map [here](#).

Kinetic Arts: Dance and Circus

St. Louis is home to cutting-edge dance and renowned circus arts groups. Dance St. Louis presents touring dance troupes to St. Louis and local groups like Big Muddy, and Madco showcase their dance locally in venues like COCA and the Touhill Performing Arts Center. You can also partake in dance at local clubs or with lessons at the historic Casa Loma ballroom on its floating dance floor circa. 1927. Circus Harmony can be found performing year-round at City Museum and under the Big Top with renowned Circus Flora, scheduled this year for June 4-6 and October 7-31, 2021. Explore St. Louis dance and circus sites by finding the magenta markers on the map [here](#).

Literary and Visual Arts: Museums and Libraries

Immerse yourself in masterpieces at Saint Louis Art Museum, with work spanning 5000 years and ranging from ancient artifacts to Renaissance, Impressionist, and modern works. Contemporary works can also be found in an eclectic array of museums, many of which are located in the Grand Center Arts District. There you will find the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, Pulitzer Arts Foundation, International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum, and Sheldon Art Galleries. Top notch museums can also be found on nearby college campuses. Make sure to celebrate the written word at St. Louis' beautiful libraries and interesting bookstores. Numerous literary greats hail from St. Louis, including T.S. Elliott, Maya Angelou, Tennessee Williams, Eugene Field as well as today's Ridley Pearson and Jonathan Franzen. Explore St. Louis museum and library sites by finding the green markers on the map [here](#).

Visual Arts: Galleries

While in St. Louis, you can see art made or try your hand creating your own art. Places like Craft Alliance, Third Degree Glass Factory, Made Makerspace, and Magic House Made for Kids are neighbors in the growing St. Louis Makers District on Delmar, where you can explore art being created in real time. Want to own art? St. Louis is home to galleries in many neighborhoods like the Central West End and Delmar Loop to charming suburban communities like Kirkwood, Webster Groves and St. Charles. Explore St. Louis art galleries by finding the olive markers on the map [here](#).

Visual Arts: Murals

The 'Gateway to the West' has been hosting regular street art festivals since the '90s, and the city is also home to the Graffiti Wall, the longest of its kind in the world. In addition to the Miracle Mile mural along the Flood Wall, St. Louis is home to murals throughout the region. Open all the time and perfect for a driving tour of the region! Explore St. Louis murals sites by finding the blue markers on the map [here](#).

Visual Arts: Sculpture

The St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce created the #MaskUP STL campaign, which brought awareness to the use of masks by masking over 100 sculptures throughout the region. While most of the masks are gone now, take a tour of some of the amazing sculptures that call St. Louis home! (The #MaskUp STL website for the project includes photos of the participating sculptures and a map of their locations.) Murals are located throughout the area, so there is bound to be one near you. Explore St. Louis sculpture sites by finding the purple markers on the map [here](#).

Visual and Engineering Arts: Architecture

Architecture is an art combining aesthetics and engineering. St. Louis is universally known for the Gateway Arch, the tallest monument constructed in the United States. Architectural influences reflected

in the area include French Colonial, German, early American, European influenced, French Second Empire, Victorian, and modern architectural styles. Consider the architecture of the Cathedral Basilica, the Climatron, the Wainwright Building, homes along Washington Terrace and Lafayette Square, the Science Center, and Union Station as examples. (And be sure to check out some of the architectural history included in the Historic Gems Challenge.) Explore St. Louis architecture sites by finding the brown markers on the map [here](#).