

THE MYTHOLOGY AND MISCONCEPTION OF GOING TO A GALLERY

As we make steps towards providing a space that is friendly, accessible and warm, we want to address some common mythologies and misconceptions about coming to going to a gallery. While much of what we say here also applies to many other gallery spaces in Portland, its always best practice to inquire about place specific rules, especially around photography.

1. Is it expensive?

All gallery art shows are free at Parallax Art Center as is the majority of our programming. Education and access to it are important to us. You may notice that the art work is usually not for sale. That is because our focus is on creating meaningful exhibits, rather than showing saleable artwork.

2. Do I have to dress up?

Come as you are and be yourself.

3. Should I know about art or art history?

Parallax has Gallery Guides [docents] who can answer questions. Come with an open mind. You will surprise yourself.

4. Is it boring?

Parallax engages all the senses. You will see art which will raise questions, be a feast for your eyes and help you see in different ways.

5. Can I talk?

Parallax is not the library or a museum. There are no rules about silence. Feel free to express yourself. Talk with your friends. Ask our staff questions. We love to talk about the work on exhibit as well as the social and environmental issues that the work is in conversation with.

6. Will it be fun?

You will see the unexpected. There are many experiences waiting for you.

7. Can I take pictures?

Help yourself. Or draw in your sketchbook or take notes.

8. Can I hang out?

Dawdle. Pause. Sit. Gaze. Converse. You are welcome here.

9. Can I bring my pet?

Yes, as long as they are well behaved and on a leash

10. I am in a wheelchair, is the space accessible?

Yes, while we don't yet have a push button entry we have a ramp into the viewing rooms as well as ADA accessible bathrooms. We are working on creating more ways that we can be accessible to more people, so if you have a special need in mind, please reach out. We also have chairs for sitting and resting and our staff is eager to support any specific accommodation needs. If you have a need that would be best addressed prior to your visit