

# Floor Plan and Guide

ENGLISH



Smithsonian  
National Museum of the American Indian  
George Gustav Heye Center



## NMAI New York

One Bowling Green, New York, NY 10004

Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Thursdays until 8 p.m.  
Closed December 25. Free admission. For more information, visit [AmericanIndian.si.edu](http://AmericanIndian.si.edu), send an email to [NMAI-NY@si.edu](mailto:NMAI-NY@si.edu), or call 212-514-3700.



NationalMuseumOfTheAmericanIndian



@AmerIndianNYC



@SmithsonianNMAI

**NEAREST PUBLIC TRANSIT** **Subway:** 4/5 to Bowling Green; 1 to Rector Street or South Ferry; J/Z to Broad Street; 2/3 to Wall Street; R to Whitehall Street  
**Bus:** M5, M15, M20

**MEMBERSHIP AND THE NMAI STORE** To become an NMAI member, visit [AmericanIndian.si.edu/give](http://AmericanIndian.si.edu/give) or call 1-800-242-NMAI (6624). Among other great benefits, members enjoy a 20% discount on all online store purchases at [nmaistore.si.edu](http://nmaistore.si.edu).

**SPECIAL EVENTS** For information about the benefits of joining our Corporate Membership Program or to host a special event at the museum, please call 212-514-3750.

**PLEASE NOTE** Food and drink are not permitted and smoking is prohibited. Security officers hand-check all backpacks, purses, briefcases, suitcases, and other bags. No checkroom is available. Video/audio recording and flash-less photography are permitted in most exhibitions; selfie sticks are not permitted. Accessibility options are available for individuals with disabilities.

**OTHER NMAI SITES** The NMAI is also comprised of the museum on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and the Cultural Resources Center (CRC), a research and collections facility in Suitland, Maryland. Visits to the CRC are by appointment only; please send requests to [NMAICollections@si.edu](mailto:NMAICollections@si.edu). For information, visit our website at [AmericanIndian.si.edu](http://AmericanIndian.si.edu), send an email to [NMAI-Info@si.edu](mailto:NMAI-Info@si.edu), or call 202-633-1000.

Support the museum! Donate \$10 by texting NATIVE to 20222. Message and data rates apply.

## Welcome to NMAI New York

The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), George Gustav Heye Center in New York City features the lifeways, history, and art of indigenous peoples throughout the Western Hemisphere. The museum, housed within the historic Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, is one of three sites that make up NMAI.

The New York museum is named after George Gustav Heye, who founded the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, in 1916 after amassing one of the world's largest collections of indigenous objects. In 1989, the museum became part of the Smithsonian Institution and today the collections total nearly one million objects.



### GETTING STARTED

Visitor Information is located on the second level near the museum's main entrance. NMAI staff and volunteers answer questions and provide information on scheduled tours, current exhibitions, museum programs, and membership.

Most visitors begin their visit by entering the museum's second-level Rotunda. From here, visitors can access the East, South, and West Galleries of the museum.

The museum's first level is accessible via the stairs and elevators on the west side of the building, as well as the building's first-level entrance. The first level features the **Diker Pavilion for Native Arts and Cultures**, a premier exhibition and performance space.

Tours of the exhibitions, as well as tours detailing the history and architecture of the Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, a National Historic Landmark, take place throughout the week. Please ask a volunteer at the Visitor Information Desk or consult the website calendar for specific days and times. For group tours, call 212-514-3794 or email [NMAI-NY@si.edu](mailto:NMAI-NY@si.edu). All tours assemble at the second-level Welcome Desk.



(Above) *Mountain Chief* (detail), depicting Blackfoot leader Mountain Chief, 2012. Terrance Guardipee (Blackfeet). (26/8907) (Left) Vessel depicting the god of fire, AD 900–1200. San Salvador Department, El Salvador. (24/7225)

### PROGRAMS, THEATER, AND FILMS

The museum features Native presentations, drama, dance, musical performances, demonstrations, readings, panel discussions, and seminars throughout the year, including:

- Winter Blast (January)
- Children's Festival (May)
- Native Sounds Downtown (June–August)
- Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration (September)
- Día de los Muertos (Late October/Early November)
- Native Art Market (December)

### MUSEUM STORE

The Museum Store (Level 2) features handcrafted jewelry, pottery, textiles, and more by skilled Native artists, as well as a large selection of toys, Native foods, books and media, and souvenirs and crafts.

(From left to right) Charly Lowry (Lumbee/Tuscarora), lead singer of Dark Water Rising, at Native Sounds Downtown. Sheldon Raymore (Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe) performing a Grass Dance. Indigenous Guatemalan cultural performance at the Annual Children's Festival.



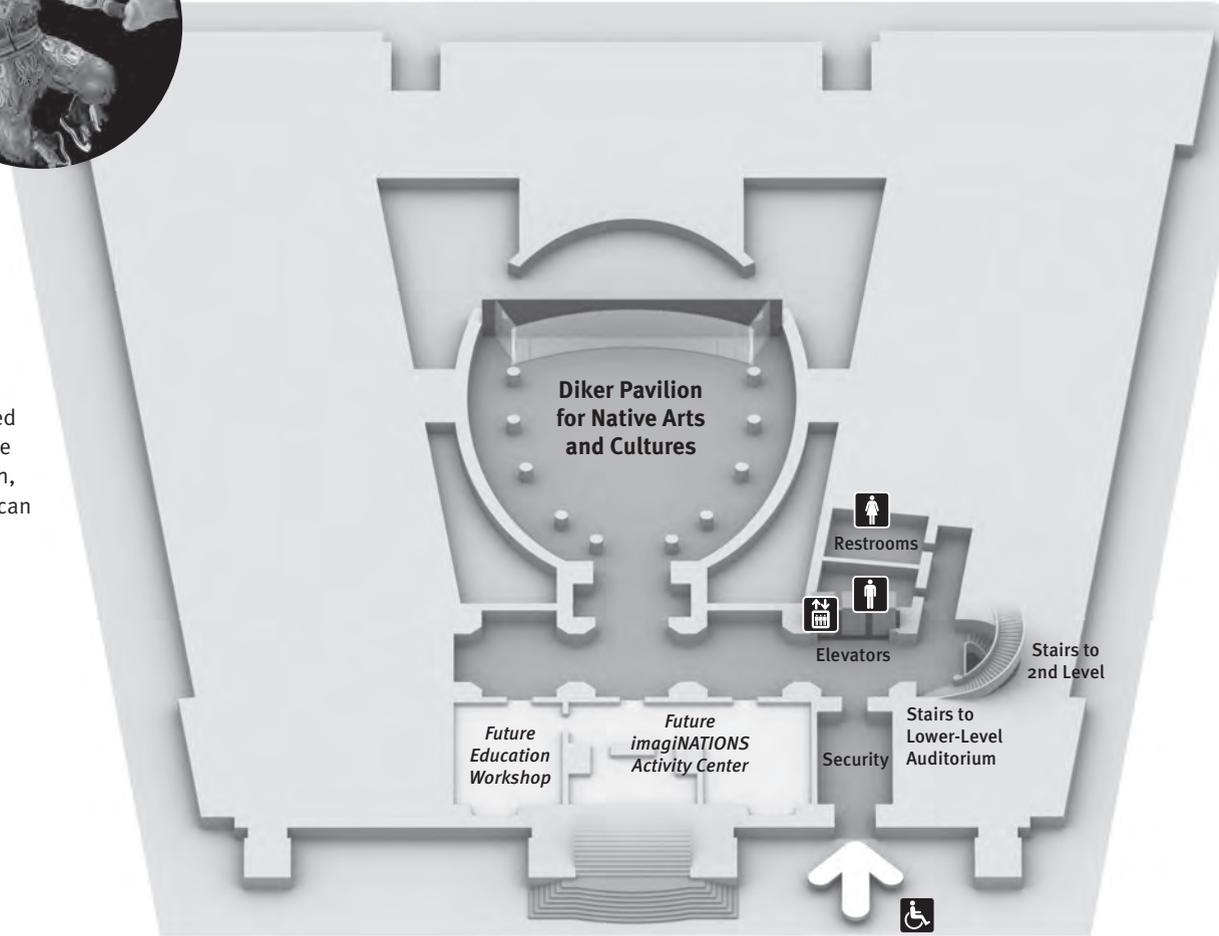


# Museum Floor Plan

1



The **Diker Pavilion for Native Arts and Cultures** currently features the exhibition *Circle of Dance*, a vibrant celebration of the art of movement throughout Native cultures. The performance space is lined with mannequins in dance regalia representing North, Central, and South American Native peoples.



**Group Entrance**





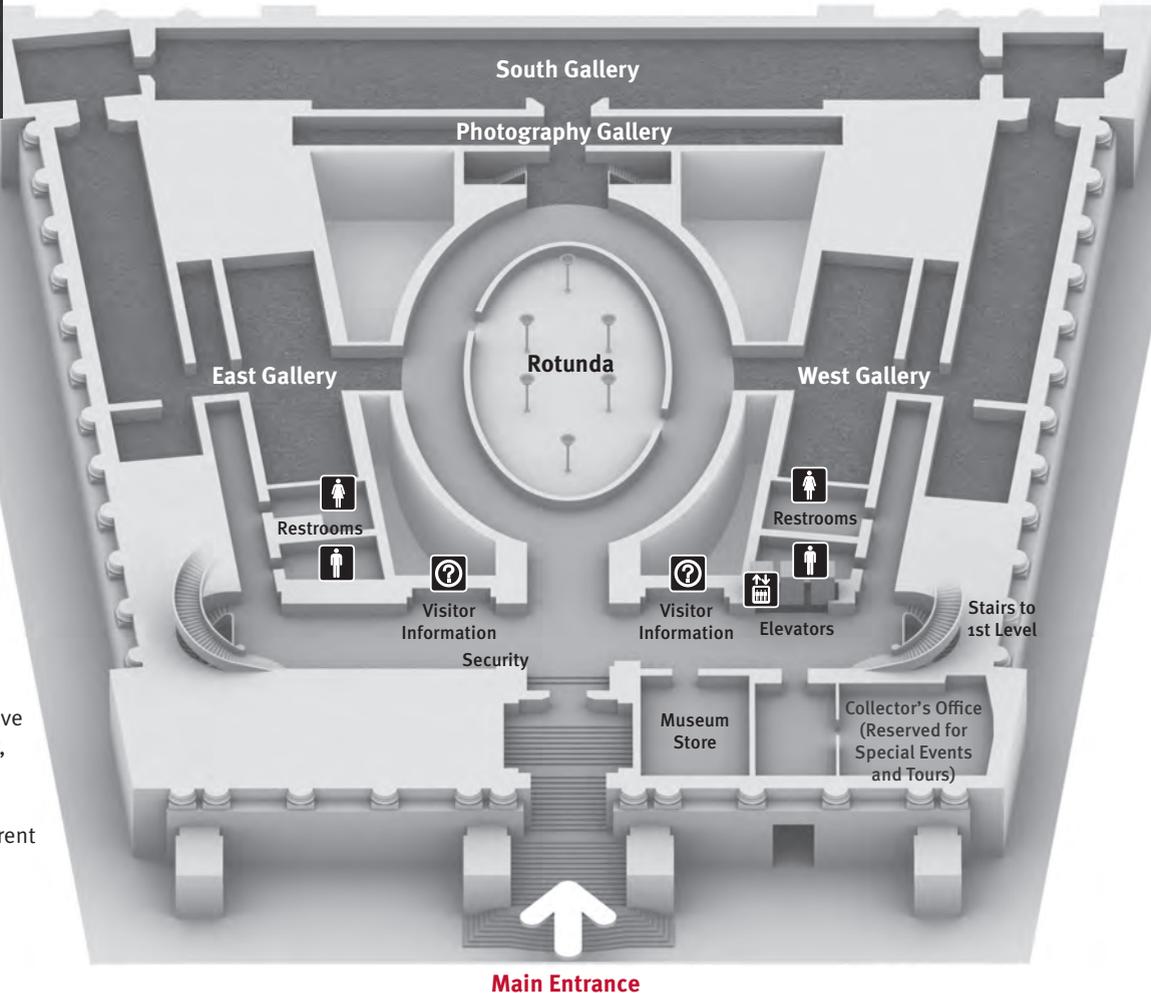
# Museum Floor Plan

2



Visit the **South Gallery** to see the spectacular permanent exhibition *Infinity of Nations*. Featuring nearly 700 masterworks from Native cultures throughout the Americas, the exhibition highlights the historic importance of these iconic objects.

The museum's second-level **East and West Galleries** feature exhibitions on a rotational basis celebrating both Native history and contemporary culture. Acclaimed past exhibitions have featured fine art, photography, archaeological/anthropologic objects, and much more. Visit [AmericanIndian.si.edu](http://AmericanIndian.si.edu) for current offerings.



**Main Entrance**





# Museum Floor Plan

LL



The **lower-level auditorium**, accessed from the west stairs on the first level, plays host to cinematic events and screenings, panel discussions, and concerts.

(From top to bottom)

Hilamas (Willie Seaweed or Smoky Top, ʼNakʼwaxdaʼxw Kwakwakaʼwakw, 1873–1967), *gikiweʼ* (chiefʼs headdress), ca. 1949. Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Purchased from Wilhelm Helmer. 23/8252

Quechua Danza de Tijeras (Scissor Dance) regalia, 2010. Worn by Walter Veille. Huancavelica, Peru. EP0954

Hip-hop artist Frank Waln (Sicangu Lakota) performs in the auditorium at NMAI New York.

