



North Carolina Museum of Art

Art in Bloom 2026, Presented by PNC Frequently Asked Questions

Days, Hours, and Tickets

What are this year's dates and available time slots?

Wednesday, March 18, 10 am–3 pm (doors close 4:30 pm)

Thursday, March 19, 10 am–5 pm (doors close 6:30 pm)

Friday, March 20, 11 am–7 pm (doors close 8:30 pm)

Saturday, March 21, 10 am–7 pm (doors close at 8:30 pm)

Sunday, March 22, 10 am–5 pm (doors close 6:30 pm)

Are there sensory-friendly hours?

Tickets are available on Saturday, March 21, 9–10 am, for visitors with autism spectrum disorder, those with sensory sensitivities, and anyone who would benefit from being able to view the content in a less crowded, quieter environment. For more information, please contact [Molly Hull](#).

How much is a ticket?

Single tickets are \$50 (\$45 for members). Ticket price includes taxes and fees.

Free admission for children 6 and under.

Capacity is limited for a more enjoyable experience. All Art in Bloom–related events, such as demonstrations, are ticketed separately.

Is there a group discount?

Art in Bloom is the Museum's annual fundraiser, and we do not offer group discounts. If you are purchasing tickets for a large party, it's best to do so by phone. Call our visitor experience team Wednesday–Sunday, 10 am–5 pm, at (919) 715-5923.

Does my ticket get me into both West and East buildings?

Yes. Art in Bloom takes place in West Building. Admission to East Building is free.

What if I arrive before or after my ticket time?

Please arrive as close to your ticket time as possible. If you miss your ticket time, we will do our best to let you in if the building is not at capacity. We cannot guarantee that you will not have to wait in line.

Will I only be able to spend a certain amount of time in the galleries?

Your time is not limited in the galleries. However, re-entry is not permitted once you have exited the building. Please note that the Museum closes daily 90 minutes after the last ticketed time.

How long does it take to see all the flowers?

We estimate that it takes a little less than an hour to see everything, but you are free to go at your own pace.

I have a ticket for the last time slot of the day. When does the Museum close?

The Museum closes 90 minutes after the last ticketed entry time. Please arrive as close to your entry time as possible so that you can have the full experience.

Will my ticket get me in as often as I'd like?

Your ticket is valid for one visit on the stated date and time.

Parking, Dining, and Retail**Where do I park?**

Visitor parking is free and available in the Blue Ridge lots, on the right after entering the Museum drive. Overflow parking is behind West Building, on the left after entering the Museum drive.

Visitor drop-off is located between West and East buildings and can be reached by turning left after entering the Museum drive and following the signs. Accessible parking spaces are located in Gipson Plaza and behind West Building.

Will there be satellite parking or golf cart service from the parking lots?

There is no satellite parking. Visitors are encouraged to carpool and to utilize visitor drop-off, located between West and East buildings. There will not be golf cart shuttle service this year.

Will there be food and drink available for purchase? What's on the menu? Can I picnic in the Park?

Picnicking in the Museum Park is allowed.

From March 18–22, all prepaid dining reservations at NCMA Café include tickets to Art in Bloom.

Bloom and Bite

Wednesday–Friday, March 18–20, 10:30 AM–3 PM

Price of purchase; reservations only

A themed menu is offered during lunch service each day.

Art of Tea in Bloom

Saturday–Sunday, March 21–22, 10:30 AM–3 PM

Prepaid reservations for Art of Tea in Bloom include tickets to Art in Bloom

Enjoy floral-inspired small bites and sip on hot tea or coffee.

Art in Bloom: Celestial Garden Dinner

Friday–Saturday, March 20–21, 5–7:30 PM

Prepaid reservations for Celestial Garden Dinner include tickets to Art in Bloom

New for 2026, NCMA Café is pleased to offer a special fixed-price dinner menu on Friday and Saturday evenings.

In addition to events requiring reservations, NCMA Café offers quick-service grab-and-go options, coffee drinks, and cocktails in West Building's lobby each day, coinciding with Art in Bloom hours. Self-service grab-and-go items are for sale in East Building's Education Gallery/Lobby as well.

What kinds of shopping opportunities will there be?

The Museum Store in West Building opens at 10 am on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday and at 11 am on Friday during Art in Bloom.

The Museum Store champions established and emerging local artists and artisans. Enjoy favorites, including a limited collection of candles, jewelry, and glass creations. This year's offerings also feature an array of floral and botanical book titles and small keepsakes like stickers, magnets, and coffee mugs. Each day brings special pricing or gifts with purchase. Please contact help@ncartmuseum.org with any questions or needs.

Do I need a ticket to shop or dine in West Building?

An Art in Bloom ticket is required to enter West Building, site of the Museum Store and NCMA Café.

Programs, Events, and Tours

Will there be an opening party?

The Starry Night Designer Reception takes place Wednesday, March 18, 6:30–9 pm. Tickets are required. We expect the event to sell out.

Will Art in Bloom have a virtual option?

Visitors may view the pedestals in person only.

Are there floral designs for any works in the Museum Park?

This year's large floral installations in West Building are inspired by the signs of the zodiac. Pedestal arrangements are inspired by works displayed in the galleries.

Are there tours of the artwork and objects in the Museum galleries or Museum Park on any of these days?

Tours are suspended during Art in Bloom.

General Questions

How many floral arrangements are there? How are you ensuring that the flowers will look as fresh on the last day as on the first?

Art in Bloom 2026 features 44 arrangements, including seven large installations and five small installations inspired by individual signs of the zodiac as well as two larger installations inspired by the zodiac as a whole. Art in Bloom designers are required to refresh their arrangements daily, with a major refresh on Friday to replace flowers as needed.

What is the check-in process?

After you have parked your car and arrived at West Building, join the queue for admission. Please have your ticket accessible at your designated time. You will enter the Museum through the front door and access the pedestals immediately. There is no admission to West Building without an Art in Bloom ticket.

Where are the restrooms?

Restrooms are located in the lobby area and further into the building, off the Rodin Court.

What can I bring inside the Museum? Are lockers available?

A limited number of lockers are available. Large packages and bags, briefcases, backpacks, and luggage are not allowed in the buildings. Any object that may pose a hazard to artwork or visitors is also prohibited. These include but are not limited to umbrellas, food and drink, backpacks, lasers, gum, and knives. No firearms are allowed on Museum property.

Strollers are welcome in the Museum; however, their use may be restricted near fragile art or in busy galleries.

Only service dogs and service miniature horses are permitted in the Museum.

Can I bring or wear flowers into the Museum buildings?

Flowers may not be carried or worn into the Museum buildings. All the Art in Bloom floral arrangements have been inspected by our conservation team in order to prevent pests from getting to the art. We are unable to do this for every guest and ask that you leave your floral accessories at home.

Is gallery seating available?

Limited seating is available in the galleries, entry, and lobby areas of West Building.

Can I reserve a wheelchair?

Wheelchairs are available for checkout in West and East buildings on a first come, first served basis and will be disinfected before and after each use. They cannot be reserved.

What if I want to visit the Museum and/or Park but not see Art in Bloom during this time?

No tickets are required to visit the Park or the collection galleries in East Building, but please be advised that parking may be extremely limited. Art in Bloom tickets are required to enter West Building during Art in Bloom. If you would like to visit the collection on view in West, we advise you to come at a different time.