



UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY

The Ellen Noel Art Museum is an institution where all patrons can engage in artistic activities safely. Visitors of all ages are invited to enjoy the galleries and garden while taking in exhibitions and programming.

The safety and well-being of young children left unattended at the Museum is of serious concern to this Museum. Young children left alone may become frightened, anxious, bored, restless, or disruptive. The cooperation of visitors and parents is integral in making the Museum a safe and happy place.

The following rules have been adopted for children accessing the Ellen Noël Art Museum:

- Parents are responsible for the acts of their children of any age while in the Museum. Parents or guardians may not leave children under age twelve (12) unattended in the classroom(s) when no program is being offered or in any other part of the Museum at any time. Parents will be notified if their children are left unattended and require supervision.
- Due to limitations of space and resources, ENAM staff are not available to provide adequate security and safety for children outside of the registered class timeframe.
- It is imperative that parents/guardians drop off and pick up children for classes in a timely manner.
- Children should be picked up from class within 10 minutes of the scheduled class completion time.
- If a parent or guardian is delayed in picking up a child, prompt telephone notification to ENAM staff is required.
- Disruptive children over the age of 12 will be asked to leave the Museum after receiving one verbal warning. If they become abusive or refuse to leave, the police will be called.
- Children need to be picked up before closing. If no guardian is present, the Museum staff will attempt to reach the parents or guardian. At closing the Odessa Police Department will be called.

Children in Registered Programs

Every registered program for children under 12 has two Museum staff (instructor and classroom assistant). At no time is a child solely left alone with the instructor or classroom assistant.

Children are escorted to the restroom in groups of 2 or more, the class assistant will remain outside the restroom door in the hallway, which is within viewing and calling distance from the classrooms. They do not, at any time, enter the restroom unless there is an emergency. The hallway is monitored by the security camera system.

Adopted: 04/12/18