

2026 NATIONAL DOCENT SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FAQs

Q. How do I register?

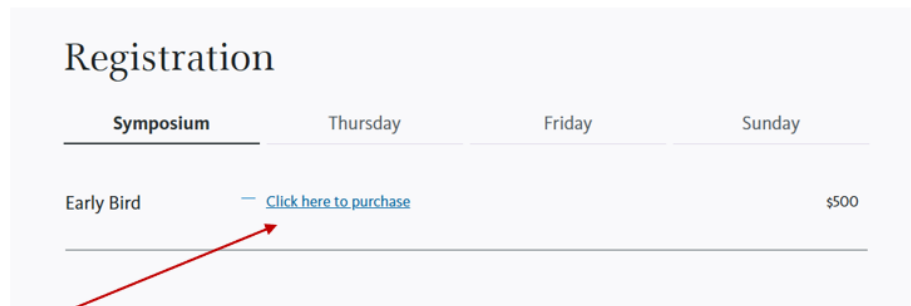
A. Registration for the National Docent Symposium 2026 is a two-step process.

1. **Step One - Registering for the Symposium and all optional excursions that have an additional charge.** Refer to the Symposium Guide for descriptions of the excursions.

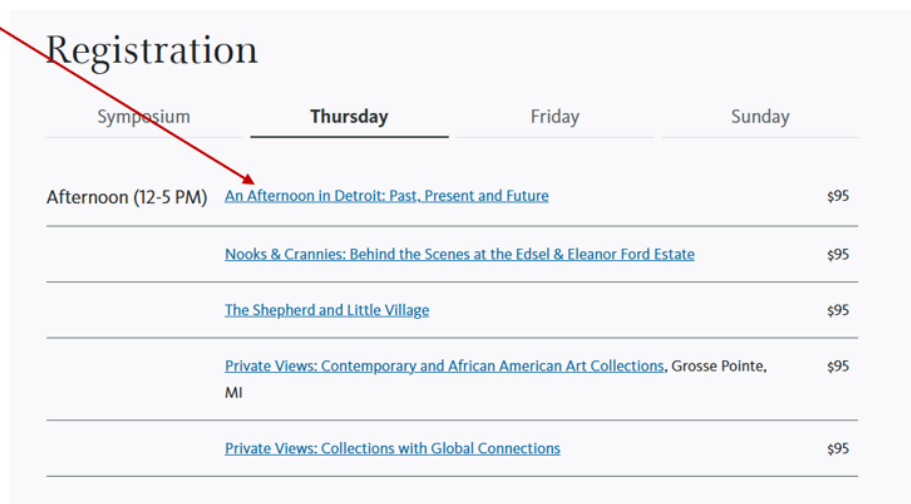
- a. On the registration webpage, click on the Symposium tab and the daily tabs listing optional excursions for each day. (Note there are no optional excursions on Saturday). **With the exception of the optional Sunday evening Dinner at The Henry Ford Museum, all excursions are reserved for registered symposium attendees only; no guests please.** Also note that some venues may only be accessible by stairs. **A new window will pop up as you make your selections. You will need to toggle between this page and the registration webpage as you select each activity; this is best done on a computer rather than a phone.**

Click blue links
to add items

A new window
will pop up as
you make your
selections



Symposium	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
Early Bird	Click here to purchase		\$500



Symposium	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
Afternoon (12-5 PM)	An Afternoon in Detroit: Past, Present and Future		\$95
	Nooks & Crannies: Behind the Scenes at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford Estate		\$95
	The Shepherd and Little Village		\$95
	Private Views: Contemporary and African American Art Collections, Grosse Pointe, MI		\$95
	Private Views: Collections with Global Connections		\$95

- b. Once you have selected the Symposium and optional excursions, proceed to the most recent window summarizing your order and click on the “+” button to indicate “1” for each selection. **(Unless buying additional guest ticket(s) for the optional Sunday evening Dinner at The Henry Ford Museum, in which case you should indicate the total number you wish to purchase).** Scroll to the bottom of the screen and click the blue “Place Order” button. (You may bypass the “Donate” section unless you wish to make a separate donation to the DIA).



Dinner at The Henry Ford Museum

Philip Rivera, thank you for verifying your Staff Affiliate membership. [Add additional auxiliary groups](#) to your cartmembership.

An Afternoon in Detroit: Past, Present and Future Thursday, November 5, 2026 12 PM Adult	REMOVE ITEM CHANGE DATE \$95.00 1
Dinner at The Henry Ford Museum Sunday, November 8, 2026 6:30 PM Adult	REMOVE ITEM CHANGE DATE \$150.00 1
National Docent Symposium EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (through May 31, 2026) Friday, November 6, 2026 9 AM Adult	REMOVE ITEM CHANGE DATE \$500.00 1

Total: \$745.00

Proceed to the most recent window summarizing your order

Click the “+” button to indicate “1” for each selection

Click “Place Order” button to proceed to next step

- c. On the “NDS 2026” screen, complete the information requested, then click the blue “Submit and Continue” button.



National Docent Symposium EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (through May 31, 2026)

NDS 2026 1 of 1

National Docent Symposium EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (through May 31, 2026) - Friday, Nov 6, 2026 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Institution Affiliation *
Detroit Institute of Arts

Institution City *
Detroit

Institution State/Province (use 2-character abbreviation) *
MI

Please indicate your role: Docent / Guide / Staff / Other *
Staff

Please indicate any allergies or food restrictions *
None

Do you need any accommodations to fully participate in this event? *
None

[BACK](#) [SUBMIT AND CONTINUE](#)

Complete the information requested, then click “Submit and Continue” to proceed to the next step

- d. On the “Your Order” screen, complete your Billing Information and review the page to confirm your selections are listed correctly. If incorrect, click the “Edit Order” button at the top of the screen to make corrections, or “Cancel Order” button at the bottom to start over. If correct, click the “I’m not a robot” reCAPTCHA verification at the bottom, then click the blue “Continue to Payment” button.



Your Order

[EDIT ORDER](#)

We look forward to your visit.

1 Billing Information

Order confirmation will be sent to your email

First Name: Philip Last Name: Rivera

Email Address: [Redacted] Phone Number: [Redacted]

Billing address

Country: United States

Address 1: [Redacted] Address 2: [Redacted]

City: Detroit State: Michigan

Zip/Postal Code: 48202-1722

Coupons

Apply a gift card or promo code? [Add a code](#)

2 Order Review

	An Afternoon in Detroit: Past, Present and Future Nov 05, 2024 12:00 PM 1 Adult	\$95.00 \$95.00
	National Docent Symposium EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (through May 31, 2024) Nov 05, 2024 9:00 AM 1 Adult	\$500.00 \$500.00
	Dinner at The Henry Ford Museum Nov 05, 2024 6:30 PM 1 Adult	\$150.00 \$150.00
Total:		\$745.00

[CANCEL ORDER](#) I'm not a robot [CONTINUE TO PAYMENT](#)

Complete your billing information and review the page to confirm your selections are listed correctly

If correct, click the “I’m not a robot” reCAPTCHA verification, then click “Continue to Payment”



- e. On the “Payment” screen, enter your credit card information, then click the blue “Complete Order” button. After this is complete, you will receive two emails – an Order Summary from “Detroit Institute of Arts” confirming your registration and payment, and within a few days an email from “NDS2026 Registration” providing you with links to complete the second step.

The screenshot displays the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) website's payment interface. A modal window titled "Payment" is open, showing the "Credit Card Information" section. The billing address is listed as 666 Taylor St, Detroit, Michigan, United States, 48202-1722. The form includes fields for Card Number, CVC, Month (MM), and Year (YYYY). A "Complete Order" button is located at the bottom right of the modal. The background shows a shopping cart with one item: "An Afternoon in Detroit: Past, Present and Future" for \$95.00.

Enter your credit card information, then click the “Complete Order” button

You will receive 2 emails—an Order Summary email from “Detroit Institute of Arts” and an email from “NDS2026Registration” providing you with links to register for breakout sessions

2. **Step Two - Registering for Breakout Sessions**, which have no additional charge. It is important to register for the breakout sessions in advance so you can attend the ones that interest you. *Note, some breakouts may fill up due to room capacity, so please have backup selections ready.*

- a. Click on the links in the registration listing attached to your confirmation email from “NDS2026 Registration” to select your breakout sessions for each of the five available timeslots (Saturday 8:45am, 10:00am, 11:15am / Sunday, 8:15am / Monday, 9:15am). **A new window will pop up as you make your selections. You will need to toggle between the registration listing and the registration webpage as you select each breakout; this is best done on a computer rather than a phone.**

Saturday, November 7, 2026, 8:45am-9:45am

Click blue links to add items

A new window will pop up as you make your selections

<p>Saturday, November 7, 2026 8:45am-9:45am</p> <p>When the Going Gets Tough: Docent-initiated Strategies for Discussing Art with Sensitive Themes</p>	<p><i>Learn strategies for navigating sensitive topics in pieces of art with confidence! This interactive workshop shows how Carnegie docents engage visitors respectfully, spark meaningful discussions, and create joyful, thoughtful experiences—even with challenging social, political, or cultural themes.</i></p> <p>Carnegie Museum of Art</p>
<p>Saturday, November 7, 2026 8:45am-9:45am</p> <p>Educate, Elevate & Inspire: Transforming Docent Training</p>	<p><i>Discover how NAGA turns docent training into an engaging, interactive experience! Learn strategies that build visual literacy, foster collaborative touring, and empower docents to connect visitors meaningfully with art—all while creating a supportive, creative learning community.</i></p> <p>National Gallery of Art</p>
<p>Saturday, November 7, 2026 8:45am-9:45am</p> <p>Roadmap to Object of the Month: Spotlighting Collections and Steering Art Conversations</p>	<p><i>Discover how docents lead dynamic “Object of the Month” sessions! This workshop shows how to select artworks, craft interactive presentations, and engage visitors in rich, behind-the-scene conversations that bring the collection to life.</i></p> <p>Phoenix Art Museum</p>
<p>Saturday, November 7, 2026 8:45am-9:45am</p>	<p><i>Experience Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) firsthand! Participate in a VTS session to explore how it builds visual literacy, deep listening, collaboration, and meaningful dialogue, followed</i></p>

- b. Once you have selected your five breakouts, proceed to the most recent window reflecting your selections and click the “+” button to indicate “1” for each selection. Once you have indicated “1” for each selection, scroll to the bottom of the screen and click the blue “Place Order” button. (You may bypass the “Donate” section unless you wish to make a separate donation to the Detroit Institute of Arts).



Art In Mind Tours: Dementia as an Opportunity

Philip Rivers, thank you for verifying your Staff Affiliates membership. [Add additional auxiliary groups](#) to your cart/membership.

Art In Mind Tours: Dementia as an Opportunity Monday, November 9, 2020 9:15 AM Adult	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/> <input type="button" value="Increase Qty"/> \$0.00 <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="button" value="Decrease Qty"/> \$0.00
Dealing with Loss, Death and Grieving as a Universal Experience Monday, November 9, 2020 8:15 AM Adult	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/> <input type="button" value="Increase Qty"/> \$0.00 <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="button" value="Decrease Qty"/> \$0.00
Navigating Conflicted Histories: A Legal-Anthropological Framework for Docent-Led Engagement Saturday, November 7, 2020 10 AM Adult	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/> <input type="button" value="Increase Qty"/> \$0.00 <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="button" value="Decrease Qty"/> \$0.00
Truth and Reconciliation: Our Gallery Guides Journey Through Unlearning in Their Approach to Indigenous Art Saturday, November 7, 2020 11:15 AM Adult	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/> <input type="button" value="Increase Qty"/> \$0.00 <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="button" value="Decrease Qty"/> \$0.00
When the Going Gets Tough: Docent-Initiated Strategies for Discussing Art with Sensitive Themes Saturday, November 7, 2020 9:45 AM Adult	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/> <input type="button" value="Increase Qty"/> \$0.00 <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="button" value="Decrease Qty"/> \$0.00
Total: \$0.00	

Donate Make a tax-deductible contribution to support the Detroit Institute of Arts today!

Amount:

Proceed to the most recent window summarizing your order

Click the “+” button to indicate “1” for each selection

Click “Place Order” button to proceed to next step

- c. On the “Your Order” screen, click the blue “Continue to Review” button to review your order. Verify your selections are reflected correctly. If incorrect, click the “Edit Order” button at the top of the screen to make corrections, or “Cancel Order” button at the bottom to start over. If correct, click the “I’m not a robot” reCAPTCHA verification at the bottom, then click the blue “Complete Order” button.



Your Order

EDIT ORDER

We look forward to your visit.

1 Payment Information

Order confirmation will be sent to your email.

First Name Philip	Last Name Rivera
Email Address [REDACTED]	
Phone Number [REDACTED]	

Coupons
Have a gift card or promo code?
+Add a code

CONTINUE TO REVIEW

2 Order Review

Total: \$0.00

Click the “Continue to Review” button to review your order






CANCEL ORDER

1 Payment Information


Billing information Payment information Change

Philip Rivera
 Detroit, Michigan 48202-1722
 United States

2 Order Review

	When the Going Gets Tough: Docent-initiated Strategies for Discussing Art with Sensitive Themes Nov 07, 2026 8:45 AM	\$0.00
1 Adult		\$0.00
	Truth and Reconciliation: Our Gallery Guides Journey through Unlearning in Their Approach to Indigenous Art Nov 07, 2026 11:15 AM	\$0.00
1 Adult		\$0.00
	Interpreting Contested Histories: A Legal-Anthropological Framework for Docent-Led Engagement Nov 07, 2026 10:00 AM	\$0.00
1 Adult		\$0.00
	Dealing with Loss, Death and Grieving as a Universal Experience Nov 08, 2026 8:15 AM	\$0.00
1 Adult		\$0.00
	Art In Mind Tours: Dementia as an Opportunity Nov 09, 2026 9:15 AM	\$0.00
1 Adult		\$0.00
Total:		\$0.00

By clicking the "Complete Order" button I agree to the [Acme Terms of Service](#)

I'm not a robot  **COMPLETE ORDER**

If correct, click the "I'm not a robot" reCAPTCHA verification, then "Complete Order"

You will receive another "Order Summary" email from Detroit Institute of Arts confirming your breakout selections, after which your registration is complete

- d. You will receive another Order Summary from "Detroit Institute of Arts" confirming the breakout sessions selected, after which your registration is complete.

Upon arrival at the Symposium, stop by the Registration/Hospitality desk to receive your schedule, nametag, and welcome packet. Please email registration2026nds@gmail.com if you have any questions about the registration process, and be sure to include a phone number where you can be reached.

Q. What is included in the Registration Fee?

A. The registration fee includes:

- An opening cocktail party
- Breakfast/brunch on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
- Lunch on Saturday and Sunday
- Attendance at 5 breakout sessions
- An afternoon at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA)
- An afternoon exploring museums and cultural sites in Detroit's Town Square centered around the DIA
- Dinner at the DIA.

Additional activities, including pre-symposium excursions and dinner at the Henry Ford Museum, require the payment of an additional charge.

Q. How do I make my hotel reservation?

A. You can use the link at <https://dia.org/docentsymposium2026> to make a room reservation at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center at the special conference rate.

Q. Can I get a full or partial refund after I have completed the registration process?

A. The Symposium, excursions and other additional activities that carried a charge are non-refundable.

Q. Can I change my excursion and breakout sessions choices after I have registered?

A. Not online. However, we will review requests on a case-by-case basis; the ability to accommodate changes will depend on whether there are openings left in the excursions and breakout sessions you would like to attend instead of the ones registered for. Send requests to registration2026nds@gmail.com.

Q. Can I bring a guest to any activities?

A. With the exception of Dinner at The Henry Ford Museum on Sunday evening, all pre-symposium excursions and activities are reserved for registered symposium attendees only; no guests, please.

Q. When does early bird pricing end?

A. May 31, 2026.

Q. When does registration close?

A. September 14, 2026, or sooner, if sold out.

For registration questions email: registration2026nds@gmail.com