

ARTS

Detroit museums will host Educators' Night, offering dozens of resources to teachers



Duante Beddingfield

Detroit Free Press

Published 6:51 p.m. ET Sept. 25, 2023 | Updated 8:10 p.m. ET Sept. 25, 2023

Detroit's cultural center institutions will host K-12 educators at six locations Tuesday evening in an effort to spread the word on what they have to offer.

Midtown Detroit, Inc. organized Educators' Night in hopes of encouraging metro Detroit teachers and others to explore and incorporate programming offered by the district's premier cultural institutions.

The event will be held 4:30-8 p.m. Tuesday across five venues:

The Carr Center (focusing on music) — 15 E. Kirby St., ground floor

Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (focusing on culture, history and theater) — 315 E. Warren

Detroit Historical Museum (focusing on historical resources, natural history and geography) — 5401 Woodward Ave.

Detroit Institute of Arts (focusing on art and design) — 5200 Woodward Ave.

Michigan Science Center (focusing on STEM) — 5020 John R St.

Over 40 arts, cultural and educational organizations will be on-site, spread across the five institutions, to share resources with teachers, including the Arab American National Museum, College for Creative Studies, Detroit Opera, Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, Pewabic Pottery and the Zekelman Holocaust Center.

More: Pioneering 94-year-old African photographer celebrated in DIA show

“We’re trying to get teachers to view the (Midtown) district differently,” said Midtown Detroit Arts and Culture Director Annmarie Borucki. “This is a noncommercial event. We’re

not trying to sell anything, and we really want the focus to be on our teachers and getting them the information they need. It's not just for Detroit teachers; it's for the larger metropolitan area, for anyone who's teaching K-12.

“We just have to make it easier for teachers to know what's out there, and let people know that the cultural center is here. A lot of times, when schools come, they're going to one institution or another. A lot of them go to the DIA, but they forget that there are other museums around there. Or sometimes, people come specifically for the Science Center, or an experience at The Wright, and they don't realize there are complimentary exhibitions at the Historic Museum. We're trying to get people to think differently: that this is a cultural center — and it's there to serve them — but at the same time, to learn from teachers, ‘What do you need from us to improve our services?’ ”

More: New Detroit art exhibit explores female body, artists' Dominican heritage

Michigan Science Center Director of Programs Anna Sterner said she hopes teachers see new options they perhaps hadn't considered in the past.

“There are options available at all of these organizations that can help them to teach different types of curriculum and offer different types of experiences for their students,” Sterner said. “Even if they've worked with the Michigan Science Center in the past, I'm also hoping they'll get to meet with some other organizations that maybe they haven't been able to interact with, and receive some of their resources, because we all really want to work together.

“We want to be able to offer a really well-rounded set of programs to these teachers to develop a really diverse set of students with an open-minded mindset as they're going through their education.”

To participate in this event, K-12 educators must register for free at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

More: Silent disco, art after dark: A look at upcoming Detroit Month of Design events

