Welcome to the Arizona Capitol Museum!

Use this packet to help plan your visit to the museum
Our mission at the Arizona Capitol Museum is to honor Arizona’s vibrant cultural heritage through history. Using our building and artifacts, we hope to educate and excite visitors about the events and people who formed our state from the very beginning.

The Capitol was designed by architect James Riely Gordon, who was well known for creating courthouses in the South. Construction began in 1898 and was completed in 1901.

Even though Arizona was still a territory at the time of construction, a finished Capitol building was meant to prove that they were ready for statehood.

The statue on top of the copper dome is Winged Victory, a goddess representing victory and justice. She is also a weather vane, and moves with the wind.

The building underwent expansions in 1919 and 1938. Eventually, the House and Senate moved into new buildings in 1960 and the Governor and other executive offices moved in 1974.

Governor Bruce Babbitt announced his plans to make the original Capitol building into a museum in 1978, and the restoration was completed in 1981.
Our Collection

With 10,000 objects in our collection, the Arizona Capitol Museum celebrates the rich political, social, cultural, environmental, and economic history of the Grand Canyon State. Some of the interesting things you will see on your visit include:

- Rough Rider’s Flag from the Spanish-American War
- Silver Service from the USS Arizona
- Constitutional Convention room
- First female Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor’s robe, phone, and footstool
- Arizona’s state flag made entirely out of Legos, (there are 113,998– one for every square mile of the state!)
Visit Information
Scheduled Tours

Before you visit:

• Check out the Arizona Capitol Museum website for additional resources such as worksheets and suggested activities.
• Prepare chaperones with important information about the expectations and rules of the museum.

Once you get here:

• Please get to the museum at least 15 minutes before your scheduled tour; this will allow time to store lunches and go over rules. **If you are more than 15 minutes late we reserve the right to adjust or cancel your tour.** On an average day we have back-to-back tours, so please keep this in mind when you are leaving school.
• Have the students line up in front of the building and the teacher check in at the Information Desk. One of our educators will greet you and start your tour.
• Tours of the museum are 45 minutes.
• There are two post-tour options: free museum exploration or a tour of the House or Senate. Legislative tours are an additional 20-30 minutes and must be booked ahead of time.

After the tour:

• Groups are welcome to eat lunch on the lawn outside or at Wesley Bolin Plaza across the street. Food and drink are not permitted in the exhibits.
• If time permits, students can explore the museum in small, supervised groups. There will be other tours happening throughout the day so stay to the south side of the building and remain respectful of the other groups.
• The Museum Store is located on the north side of the building on the first floor. Students are welcome to shop in small, supervised groups.
• Scavenger hunts and activity worksheets are available—check in at the Information Desk if you are interested.
Visit Information
Self-Guided Groups

Before you visit:

• Check out the Arizona Capitol Museum website for additional resources such as worksheets and suggested activities. These are tailored by grade and created using Arizona standards to enhance group visits.

• Prepare chaperones with important information about the expectations and rules of the museum.

Once you get here:

• Check in with the Information Desk to receive information on the days events, such as scheduled tours or programs happening in the exhibits.

• If you brought lunches, they must be stored during your visit. Ask the Information Desk about storage when you arrive.

• Groups are welcome to eat lunch on the lawn outside or at Wesley Bolin Plaza across the street. Food and drink are not permitted in the exhibits.

• Small, supervised groups are encouraged to explore the museum. Be aware of other groups and visitors while in the galleries.

• The Museum Store is located on the north side of the building on the first floor. Students are welcome to shop in small, supervised groups.
Expectations

• There is no eating or drinking allowed in the galleries. If you bring your lunches, they will be stored near the Information Desk during your visit. Your group is welcome to eat on the lawn outside or at Wesley Bolin Plaza across the street.

• While exploring the museum, please use inside, library voices. There will be other tours going on in the building, so please keep that in mind.

• No running, shoving, pushing, or other physical activity that could damage collections or cause a disturbance to other visitors.

• Taking pictures is encouraged, but no flash photography.

• Stay to the right on the stairs and keep your hand on the handrail. Make sure not to jump or run on the stairs to prevent any injuries.

• Please do not touch the objects as many of the artifacts in our collection are delicate.

• Sketching and drawing with pencils is welcome while in the exhibits.
Contact and Additional Information

For questions regarding your group visit, please contact Education Coordinator Amanda Finlayson at 602-926-3810 or afinlayson@azlibrary.gov

Student Fun Packs are available for purchase from our Museum Store. For more information or to order, contact our Store Manager Ken Judd at 602-926-3624 or kjudd@azlibrary.gov

For additional resources and information, visit https://azlibrary.gov/branches/arizona-capitol-museum/educator-resources
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FIRST FLOOR
1. Flagship of the Fleet: Life and Death of the USS Arizona
2. Phoenix Suns "SunsAt50" Exhibit
3. MLK Day 25 Years
4. Museum Store
5. Proudly Serving Starbucks Coffee
   Café Arizona

SECOND FLOOR
1. CapSnaps Gallery
   Your Photo Op @ the Arizona Capitol Museum
2. AZ Voting History
   Register to Vote
3. Secretary of State’s Office
4. Arizona Takes Shape
5. Governor’s Office
6. Mine Inspector

THIRD FLOOR
1. Historic Senate Chamber
   (Reserved for Private Events)
2. Arizona State Courts
3. Merci Train
4. We, the People of Arizona...
   The Arizona Constitution
5. The Constitutional Convention
6. Campaign for Statehood

FOURTH FLOOR
1. Senate Gallery
   (Reserved for Private Events)
2. House Gallery
3. Under the Copper Dome

#AZCapitolMuseum
Visit our store online - www.azcapitolgifts.com
Bus Parking