

## Detroit Institute of Arts Fact Sheet

*The Detroit Institute of Arts strives to be the town square of our community, a gathering place for everybody, and create experiences that help each visitor find personal meaning with the art, individually, and with each other.*

- The DIA was founded in 1885 on Jefferson Avenue – due to its rapidly expanding collection, the museum moved to its current location on Woodward Avenue in 1927.
  - Two additional wings were added in the 1960s and 1970s, and a major renovation and expansion that began in 1999 was completed in 2007.
- The museum covers 658,000 square feet and is home to more than 140 galleries, a 1,140-seat auditorium, a 333-seat lecture/recital hall, an art reference library, and a state-of-the-art conservation services laboratory.
- The DIA's collection contains more than 65,000 works and is among the top six in the United States.
  - Contains American, European, Modern and Contemporary, and Graphic art, as well as significant works of African, Asian, Native American, Oceanic, Islamic, and Ancient art.
  - In 2000, the DIA established the General Motors Center for African American Art
  - Contains Vincent van Gogh's ***Self-Portrait***, the first Van Gogh painting to enter a U.S. museum collection.
  - Home to Mexican artist Diego Rivera's *Detroit Industry* fresco cycle, which Rivera considered his most successful work.
- Notable directors include:
  - Salvador Salort-Pons
    - Director, President and CEO from 2015 – present.
    - Joined the DIA as Executive Director of Collections Strategies in 2008 from the Meadows Museum at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.
  - William Valentiner
    - Director from 1924 – 1945.
    - Acquired many important works that established the framework of today's collections, including Rivera's *Detroit Industry* and van Gogh's *Self-Portrait*.
- In August 2012, voters in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties approved a 0.2 millage to fund the Detroit Institute of Arts. These benefits are provided to tri-county residents:
  - Free unlimited general museum admission
  - Free school field trips with free bus transportation
  - Free group visits for seniors and free bus transportation
  - Expanded teacher professional development with school systems
  - Expanded community partnerships