

MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY

# Resources for Visitors with Autism



**MOHAI**  
MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY

## Welcome to MOHAI!

The Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI) is committed to accessibility for all visitors. The information in this guide is to assist autistic individuals and their caregivers in planning their visit.



# Table of Contents

MOHAI at Lake Union Park .....	3
Plan Your Visit.....	4
Museum Overview .....	5
Floor Maps	
Legend.....	6
First Floor Overview.....	7
Second Floor Overview.....	8
Third and Fourth Floor Overview.....	9
Contact Information .....	10





Entrance

View from foot bridge, looking east.



Entrance

View from Valley Street, looking north.

◀ NORTH  
DOWNTOWN SEATTLE ▶

# LAKE UNION

MUSEUM ENTRANCE

MOHAI

GATED ACCESS TO ADA PARKING

ADA PARKING

PUBLIC PARKING

RAISED POND

FOOT BRIDGE

STREETCAR

VALLEY STREET

TERRY

PUBLIC PARKING ALONG WESTLAKE AVENUE

# Plan Your Visit



## Museum Hours

- 10 am–5 pm..... Open daily (see our website for holidays and additional closures)
- 10 am–8 pm..... First Thursday of each month (5–8 pm free admission to permanent exhibits)

## Best Time of Day to Visit

MOHAI is generally least busy after 2 pm on weekdays, or before noon on Sundays.

## Admission

Kids 14 and under are always free with an accompanying adult. See [MOHAI.org/Visit](http://MOHAI.org/Visit) for admission prices, special group rate offers, and to purchase tickets. Visitors are welcome to same-day, free re-entry with proof of payment.

## Getting here

You can get to the museum by car, bus, streetcar (Lake Union Park stop), bike, or boat. Almost all methods for getting to the museum will require a walk across Lake Union Park, which borders the water and contains resident geese and other wildlife.

## ADA Parking, Drop-Off and Pick-Up

The ADA parking lot may be used as an accessibility drop-off and pick-up location for those without a permit. For access, pull up to the gate at the Valley Street entrance to Lake Union Park, just east of the South Lake Union Streetcar stop. This entrance is shared with foot, bike, and streetcar paths.

Use the call box on the left side of the driveway to gain access to the ADA parking lot. Follow instructions on the call box for entry.

## Coat Check

A self-service coat rack is located on the first floor. MOHAI is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## Lockers

Lockers are located on the first floor near the restrooms. They are available for free on a first-come, first serve basis. Each locker is approximately 17 inches tall by 9 inches wide by 16 inches deep and fit one standard backpack. The front desk is happy to give you a temporary key.

## Photography

Photography is welcome without a flash. MOHAI encourages visitors to share their photographs with us on social media. #mohai

## Food

Gourmondo at MOHAI offers snacks and beverages available for purchase. Open daily: for today's hours ask at the Admissions Desk. Refreshments brought from home may be enjoyed in the Microsoft Lakefront Pavilion. Occasionally, this room is crowded or unavailable. No food or drink is allowed in the galleries.

## General Museum Safety

For preservation reasons, please refrain from touching the artifacts. For your safety and the safety of others, please refrain from running in the museum.

## Additional Resources—Visitor Services Desk

If you have questions about sensory conditions in specific areas of the museum, please ask museum staff about potential sensory stimuli before you enter the space.

Options for a quiet space to take a break vary - check in with the front desk for a day-of recommendation before you begin your visit.

Information about additional resources, admission, events, and more can be found on the MOHAI website at [mohai.org/visit](http://mohai.org/visit) or by inquiring at the Admissions Desk upon arrival.



# Museum Overview



## Grand Atrium

The Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI) is housed in a historic armory building on South Lake Union. Its architecture features a wide open inner space with exhibits around all sides. The main entrance to the museum brings you into the Faye G. Allen Grand Atrium. There are multiple videos that can be heard from across the first floor.

## Hanging Overhead

Hanging from the ceiling are a historical plane, hydroplane racing boat, and large wooden sculpture visible from every floor. They are held securely with earthquake-proof technology.

## Restrooms

Restrooms are located on the first and second floor. All toilets flush automatically by motion sensor or by pushing a button.

Multiple-stall, gender-specific restrooms are located on the first floor in the southwest corner.

Individual-use, all-gender restrooms are located on the second floor in the southeast corner. They are adjacent to a more secluded and quieter area with natural lighting.

## Interactives

There are many hands-on interactives at MOHAI for visitors to pull, push, spin, and build with. Items that may not be touched

will typically be behind a barrier/rope, on a raised platform, inside a glass case, or have a no-touching sign. We have indicated on the map where looped videos and opportunities for tactile engagement exist throughout the museum.

## Video and Interactive Screens

There are many interactive screens and videos located throughout MOHAI.

In the Bezos Center for Innovation (BCI) on the first floor, all screens but two are touch activated. The videos on these screens can seem loud and the volume cannot be adjusted. However, the touch-activated screens can be stopped.

On the second floor, most videos and sounds play continuously on a loop at a single level and can be heard when approaching the room. Other second floor screens are touch activated. The volume can be adjusted by the viewer for these videos.

Temporary exhibits may contain interactive screens and videos; please check with the front desk for more information.

## Prologue Theater and Seattle's Great Fire Theater

The Prologue Theater and Seattle's Great Fire theatres are timed to play every ten minutes. They can be loud and bright when playing, but are low-light, low-audio areas when not running. You can hear the audio as you approach each theatre when they are on.

The Fire Theater starts quietly but later the volume increases and flashing lights simulate fire. Red curtains appear on the screen

and the sounds of an orchestra warming up play before the show starts.

## Transitions

Much of the museum has smooth transitions from one section to the next, with the exception of the Walker Gallery on the second floor. This gallery houses the larger temporary exhibits and has special climate controls, so the temperature and sound levels may be very different from outside the gallery. Feel free to talk with front desk staff for more information upon arrival.



## Fire Theater

Features bright, flashing lights and loud video

# Map Legend

---

## Sensory Information



Natural Light



Can have Loud/  
Busy Sounds



Temperature  
Change



Can be Bright

## Interactive



Looped Video



No Touch



Tactile  
Engagement

## General Navigation



Stairs



Elevator



Wheelchair  
Accessible



Emergency  
Exit



Break Area



Restroom



Water



Gourmondo Café



Admissions  
Desk



Seating

# MAIN FLOOR OVERVIEW

## Videos Throughout First Floor

All screens but two are touch-activated. The volume cannot be adjusted and may seem loud. However, the touch-activated screens can be stopped.

## Microsoft Lakefront Pavilion

This room is located along the north end of the Grand Atrium. It is generally a quieter space. There are floor to ceiling windows with views to the historic ship wharf and waterfront activity.

Occasionally this room is crowded or unavailable. Check with the front desk staff upon arrival.

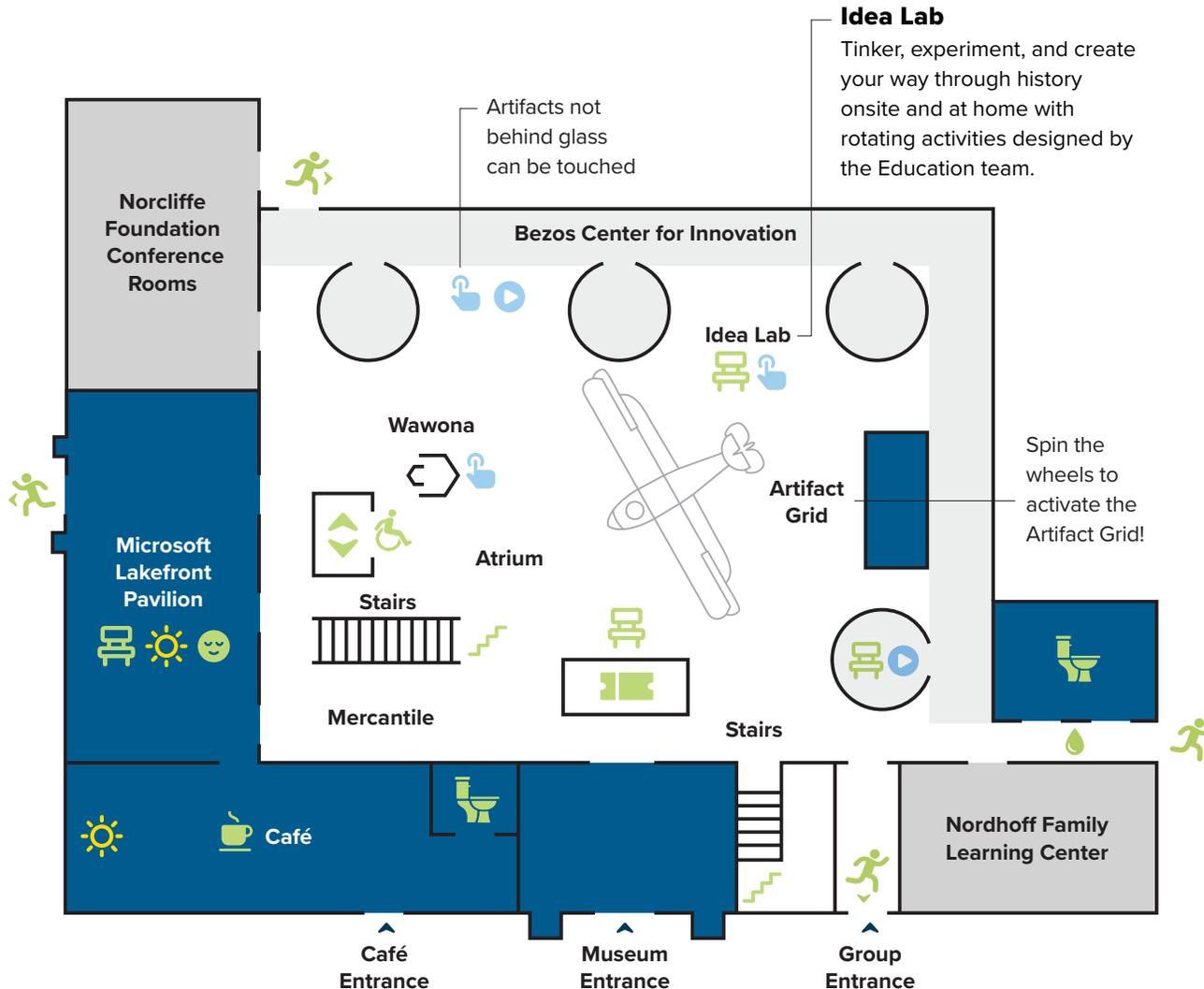
## Gourmondo Café

This room has natural lighting and overlooks Lake Union Park. It has access to outdoor seating, weather permitting.

## Restrooms

There are multiple-stall, gender-specific restrooms on the first floor in the southwest corner. They contain auto-flushing toilets.

Some of Seattle's most iconic artifacts are on display in the Faye G. Allen Grand Atrium. Here you will also find the *Bezos Center for Innovation*, an exhibit that explores Seattle's role as a hub of big ideas and new directions. Come discover the past and future of creativity and innovation in the region.



## SENSORY INFORMATION



## INTERACTIVE



## GENERAL NAVIGATION



# SECOND FLOOR OVERVIEW

## E. Fire Theater

Video that plays automatically, starting every ten minutes and lasting seven minutes. The exhibit is visually and audibly stimulating. Flashing lights simulate fire. Please do not touch any of the artifacts in this room.

## R. Prologue Theater

A video introduces visitors to the content and concepts in *True Northwest: The Seattle Journey*. The video plays automatically, starting every 10 minutes and lasting 8 minutes. It plays across multiple screens. When the video is not playing, the theater is dark and there is light background music.

## Walker Gallery

This gallery houses larger temporary exhibits. It is temperature-controlled. Transition from the main atrium to this gallery may be felt. Because the content of this gallery changes, sensory concerns may also change. Please inquire with the front desk staff upon arrival.

## Tactile Engagement

The second floor has many interactives and opportunities for visitors to push, spin, and create. Most items that should not be touched are behind a rope or glass. Others are marked with a no touch sign. Please do not climb in or on any of the exhibits. There are several touch-activated screens in the exhibit.

## True Northwest: The Seattle Journey

MOHAI's primary exhibit explores Puget Sound history from the 1790s to today. The stories are divided into snapshot sections organized by chronological date and themes. Visitors begin in the northwest corner then proceed clockwise around the atrium. See arrows on map for key navigation points.

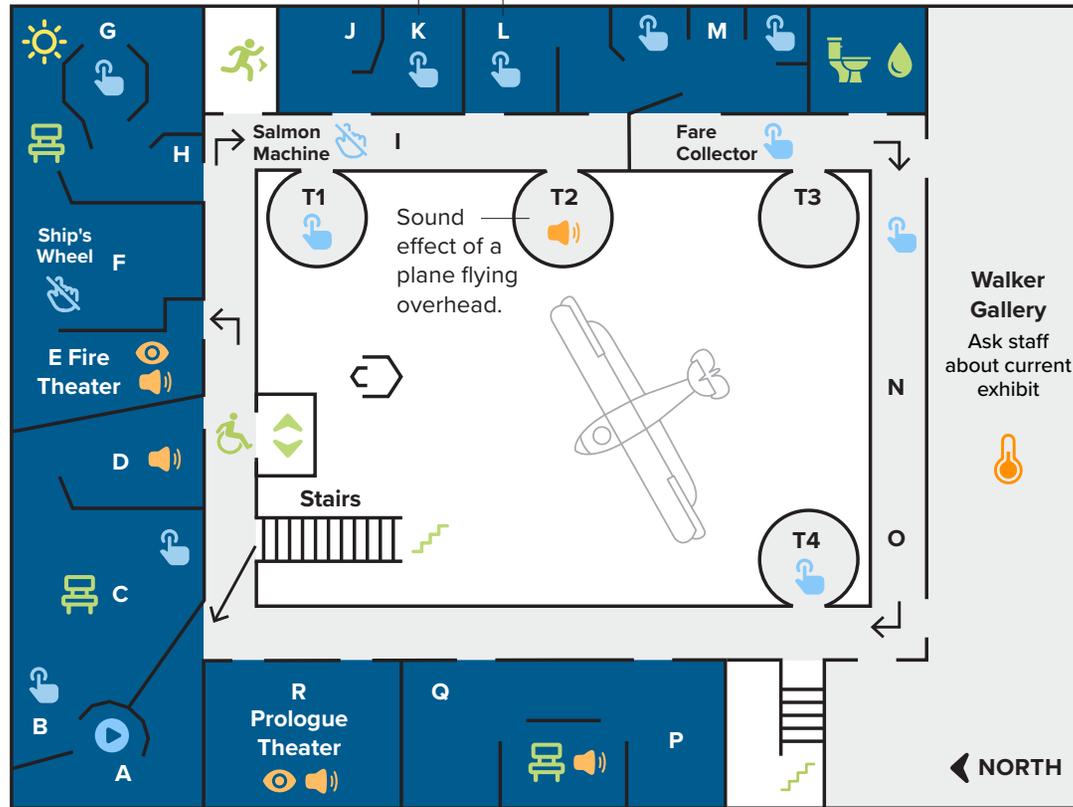
### Hobo Code

You can lift the flaps, but please do not touch or climb the rest of the display.

### Oral Histories

### Window panel

You can open the little window pane to see outside, just don't open the big one.



- A Native Ground
- B Encounters
- C Getting Started
- D High Hopes
- E Seattle's Great Fire
- F Gold Rush!

- G Seattle by Design
- H World at War
- I Engines of Industry
- J Moonshine
- K Hard Times
- L World War II

- M Suburban Seattle
- N Changes
- O Tech City
- P World City
- Q Visions
- R Prologue Theater

### Towers

- T1 Personal Stories
- T2 Boeing Takes Off
- T3 Seattle's World's Fairs
- T4 The Microsoft Story

## SENSORY INFORMATION

- Natural light
- Can be bright
- Temperature change
- Can have loud/busy sounds

## INTERACTIVE

- Tactile engagement
- Do not touch
- Looped video

## GENERAL NAVIGATION

- Seating
- Stairs
- Elevator
- Emergency Exit
- Wheelchair accessible
- Water
- Restroom

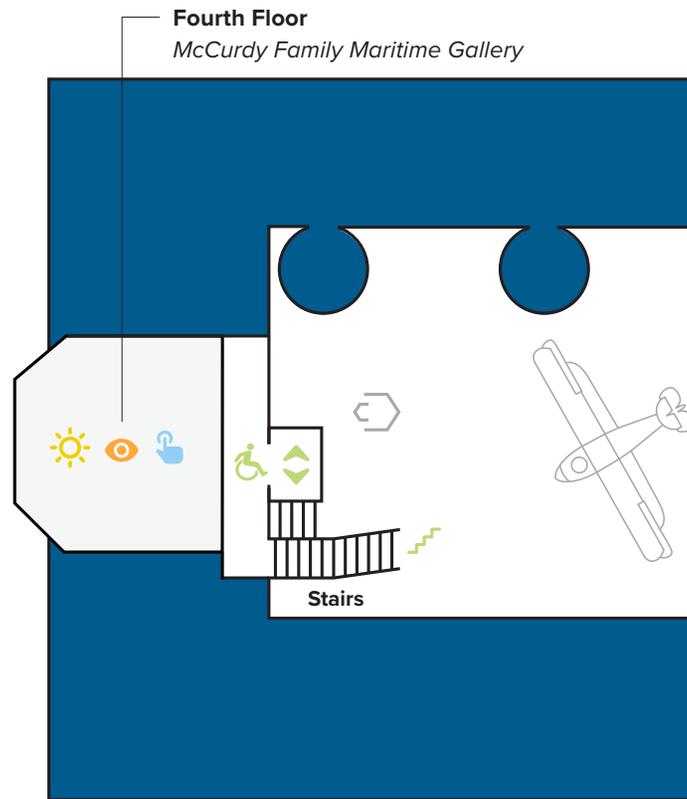
# THIRD AND FOURTH FLOOR OVERVIEW



## Third Floor

Step into MOHAI's *Kid-Struction Zone* in the Linda and Ted Johnson Family Community Gallery for an exciting, hands-on adventure that sparks creativity and curiosity in early learners (ages 2-7).

This room contains several opportunities for tactile engagement and cushioned seating. The sensory concerns in this room may change depending on how busy it is.



## SENSORY INFORMATION

-  Natural light
-  Can be bright
-  Temperature change
-  Can have loud/busy sounds

## INTERACTIVE

-  Tactile engagement

## GENERAL NAVIGATION

-  Stairs
-  Elevator
-  Wheelchair accessible



## Fourth Floor

One artifact in *McCurdy Family Maritime Gallery* is a lighthouse jewel. It is located immediately to the right as you enter the gallery. The reflective light can be very bright depending on what angle it is viewed.

## Fourth Floor

The *McCurdy Family Maritime Gallery* explores the maritime history of Seattle. This gallery is often a quieter space in the museum. There is natural light throughout and the gallery overlooks Lake Union. In this room all screens, interactives, and artifacts that are not behind glass can be touched.





For more information regarding MOHAI's accessibility,  
or to provide feedback, please contact us.

[information@mohai.org](mailto:information@mohai.org)  
206 324 1126

**Museum of History & Industry**  
860 Terry Ave N  
Seattle WA, 98109