The Dallas Museum of Art has over 22,000 works of art from around the world and throughout time, spanning 5,000 years of human creativity.

It’s a big museum, so start your visit with this bite-sized tour.

MUSEUM HOURS
Tuesday–Sunday 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Thursday 11:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays

For information on tours, programs, and exhibitions, visit DMA.org.

DMA Friends can text code SGT TO 214-390-9693 or use this code to check in at a Friends kiosk.

Earn points for engaging with art!
Beauty Beheld

Beauty is a universally complex concept. Personal ideas, cultural beliefs, and more inform our thoughts about beauty. What makes someone beautiful?

This self-guide features works of art in the African, Asian, and American galleries that express beauty in different ways and for different reasons.

LEVEL 3

1. Nigeria, Igbo peoples
   **STANDING FEMALE FIGURE**
   Late 19th to 20th century
   During a process called nkpu, pubescent Igbo girls were taught how to be beautiful on the inside and on the outside. The girls purposefully gained weight by not working or exercising and decorated their bodies with painted patterns and scarification. Meanwhile, they learned from village women how to be dutiful wives and nurturing mothers. Consider the beauty regimens you have been taught.

2. Tibet
   **SYAMATARA**
   18th century
   This elegant beauty, draped in jewels, is the bodhisattva Syamatara, or “Green Tara,” a Buddhist spiritual teacher who brings happiness and prosperity to those who meditate upon her. Syamatara’s feminine and sensuous features emphasize her kind, maternal nature. Look for other examples of female beauty in the Hindu and Buddhist galleries.

LEVEL 4

3. John Singleton Copley
   **WOODBURY LANGDON AND SARAH SHERBURN Langdon**
   1767
   In the same way you might dress your best for a family photo, the Langdons asked artist John Singleton Copley to paint them in fine and fashionable garments to show off their newly acquired wealth and social standing. Explore other portraits nearby and look for ways the sitters beautify themselves.

4. Donald DeLue
   **SUN GOD (HELIOS)**
   1937
   Sculptor Donald DeLue represents the Greek god Helios heroically nude and with flexed muscles as a nod to ancient Greek ideals of beauty. The sunburst motif and largely geometric forms are an example of art deco, a decorative style popular in many countries during the 1920s and 1930s. Look closely to see the many details DeLue captures in this bronze.

5. Isaac Soyer
   **ART BEAUTY SHOPPE**
   1934
   Cut, curl, lipstick, and polish! Five women engage in activities intended to maintain or enhance beauty in 20th-century American culture—all of which are still relevant today. The gentleman in the corner appears to be waiting. Does he wait for a girl, or a beauty service for himself?