



GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM FACT SHEET

MEDIA CONTACT

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Project Description	<p>The Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) building is the first art museum in the world whose entire facility is built to LEED standards. The new \$75 million, 125,000 square foot building opened on October 5, 2007, providing the Midwest with a premier museum facility and Grand Rapids' first museum space created specifically for presenting works of art.</p> <p>The Grand Rapids Art Museum was recently cited by <i>Newsweek</i> as one of the world's six best new buildings of 2007 by architecture critic Cathleen McGuigan.</p>
Completed	October 5, 2007, Grand Opening Day
Location	101 Monroe Center NW Grand Rapids, Michigan
Architect	Kulapat Yantrasast, Yo Hakomori, Aaron Loewenson, wHY Architecture
Square Footage	125,000
Project Cost	\$75 million; total fundraising complete
Founding Date	1910 (as the Art Association of Grand Rapids)

LOCATION

The new GRAM facility is built on a previously underdeveloped site in the heart of the city's downtown. The facility is adjacent to Maya Lin's *Ecliptic*, a recently designed urban sculpture and park. The central location of the new GRAM facility encourages access by public transportation and bicycle.

EXTERIOR DESIGN

The building features a three-story stacked design that leaves the site's front section open for use as green space, blending the museum facility with the adjacent urban park, *Ecliptic*. Parkland, plantings, and water features have been maximized to reduce the urban "heat island" effect caused by paved surfaces. The museum's exterior landscaping and plantings are plotted to make the most efficient use of water and other resources.

GALLERY WING

A three-floor gallery wing provides nearly 20,000 square feet of exhibition space for the museum. Topped with glass skylight lanterns that rise behind the central pavilion, GRAM's permanent collection is presented in a series of seven galleries located on the third floor. The second floor of the gallery wing features temporary exhibitions and revolving works on paper. In addition, there is a gallery dedicated to design and modern

craft on the main floor adjacent to a gallery devoted to regional art.

Collections and Traveling Exhibitions

The permanent collection consists of 5,000 works of art, of which more than half are works on paper. The collections, dating from 1500 to the present, are primarily European and American with 20th century collections of international scope. The strength of the painting collection is modern art, which includes Richard Diebenkorn's major early work *Ingleside*, 1963.

Interior

- Permanent Collection & Temporary Exhibitions Galleries: 20,000 sq. ft.
- Education (studios and orientation areas): 5,000 sq. ft.
- Lobby/Reception Area: 4,500 sq. ft.
- Auditorium: 285 seats
- Retail Shop: 2,400 sq. ft.
- Café (including outdoor terrace): 1,500 sq. ft., seating for 100

GREEN ELEMENTS

Air	The building's air conditioning and filtration systems include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• passive air conditioning via vapor misting• no HCFC (hydrochlorofluorocarbon) emissions• strict CO2 emissions monitoring throughout museum
Lighting	The building's lighting systems include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an interior shading system to diffuse natural light through the museum• lantern skylight system in galleries• built-in skylight louvers in galleries, adjustable to accommodate varied exhibitions
Water	Recycled rainwater is used in systems throughout the facility, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• toilet flushes• planting irrigation• fountain
Insulation	The building's insulation systems include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• light-colored concrete walls• three-layer UV filter glass in windows• insulating Argon gas between glass window panels• low-emission coatings on all components
Recycling	The museum operates a strict recycling policy to decrease day-to-day environmental impact

GRAM STORE ITEMS

- Earth Friendly recycled paper notebooks, pens, shirts and aprons
- Outdoor items—logo picnic blanket and umbrella
- Furniture by Herman Miller for Home—including the Eames Lounge Chair
- Expansive art book and children's book sections

OUTDOOR SPACE

Along the front of the building on the lower plaza level is an outdoor pocket park. A large portico with an expansive roof canopy cantilevered toward Maya Lin's *Ecliptic* urban park extends the building's connection to the park and the ice rink at its center. Among other public amenities are an area for ice skate rental and a storage area for a Zamboni used to clear *Ecliptic's* skating rink, open during winter months.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

www.gramonline.org or (616) 831-1000