

Arts and Culture

Houston's cultural community is vibrant and growing.

HOUSTON'S CULTURAL FACILITIES	
Museums and Theaters Added Since 1987	
<i>Art Museums</i>	<i>Science and History Museums</i>
Art Car Museum	Bible in America Museum
Audrey Jones Beck Building (new building at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston)	Buffalo Soldiers Museum
Byzantine Fresco Chapel	Challenger Learning Center
Contemporary Arts Museum	The Children's Museum
Cullen Sculpture Garden	Cockrell Butterfly Center
Cy Twombly Gallery	Fort Bend Museum of Southern History
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft	Galveston's Mardi Gras Museum
Lawndale Art & Performance Center	George Historical Ranch
The Menil Collection	Holocaust Museum Houston
Rienzi Collection and Gardens	Lone Star Flight Museum
<i>Theaters</i>	Military Museum of Texas
Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion	Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts
Hobby Center for the Performing Arts	Museum of Health & Medical Science
Verizon Wireless Theater	National Museum of Funeral History
Wortham Theater Center	Space Center Houston
	The Woodlands Children's Museum
	Weather Museum
	Weiss Energy Hall

- In the past 20 years, Houston has added or expanded 10 art museums or galleries, four major theaters or performance centers, and 18 science and history museums.
- The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH) in 2000 inaugurated its new \$83 million, 192,447-square-foot Audrey Jones Beck Building. The opening, which more than doubled the museum's size, catapulted the MFAH from 30th- to sixth-largest art museum in the nation in terms of exhibition space. The museum received a bequest for \$400 million in 2005.
- Houston's Museum District, near Hermann Park, includes the MFAH, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Houston Zoo and 13 other institutions, most of which are museums.