



The Aga Khan Museum and Gardiner Museum

BLUE ACROSS CULTURES

Title: Blue in Motion
Date: April 13, 2027
Audience: Grades 4–8
Language: English
Format: Live virtual & hands-on activity
Duration: 60 minutes
Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

REGISTER HERE

AGA KHAN MUSEUM | Gardiner Museum



Follow the remarkable journey of cobalt blue as it travelled across continents and centuries. Beginning in Iran and moving through China, the Netherlands, and into contemporary ceramic practice, students discover how artists adapted and reimagined this vibrant pigment through trade, cultural exchange, and innovation. Inspired by objects from the Aga Khan Museum and the Gardiner Museum, students will create their own blue-inspired design during a guided hands-on activity.

Learning Goals

- Trace the global journey of cobalt blue through art, trade, and cultural exchange.
- Analyze how artists across cultures adapted and reinterpreted artistic traditions.
- Create an original design inspired by blue patterns and motifs from both museum collections.

Materials

Paper, pencil and pencil crayons

Preparation

Registered teachers will receive a printable template before the session. Please print one copy for each student in advance so everyone is ready for the hands-on activity.

REGISTER HERE

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Blue Across Cultures

Blue in Motion

Grade	Subject	Strand	Specific Expectations
4	**The Arts**	**D. Visual Arts** D1. Creating and Presenting D3. Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts	D1.1, D1.3, D1.4 D3.1, D3.2
	Social Studies	**A. Heritage and Identity: Early Societies to 1500 CE** A1. Application: Past and Present Societies A2. Inquiry: Ways of Life and Relationships with the Environment A3. Understanding Context:Characteristics of Early Societies	A1.2, A1.3, A1.4, A2.1, A2.2, A2.6, A3.2, A3,3, A3.6
	Science and Technology	**E. Earth and Space Systems** E2. Exploring and Understanding Concepts	E2.4
5	**The Arts**	**D. Visual Arts** D1. Creating and Presenting D3. Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts	D1.1, D1.3, D1.4 D3.1, D3.2
6	**The Arts**	**D. Visual Arts** D1. Creating and Presenting D3. Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts	D1.1, D1.3, D1.4, D3.1, D3.2
	Social Studies	**A. Heritage and Identity: Communities in Canada, Past and Present** A3. Understanding Context: The Development of Communities in Canada	A3.11
7	**The Arts**	**D. Visual Arts** D1. Creating and Presenting D3. Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts	D1.1, D1.4, D3.1, D3.2
8	**The Arts**	**D. Visual Arts** D1. Creating and Presenting D3. Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts	D1.1, D1.4, D3.1, D3.2



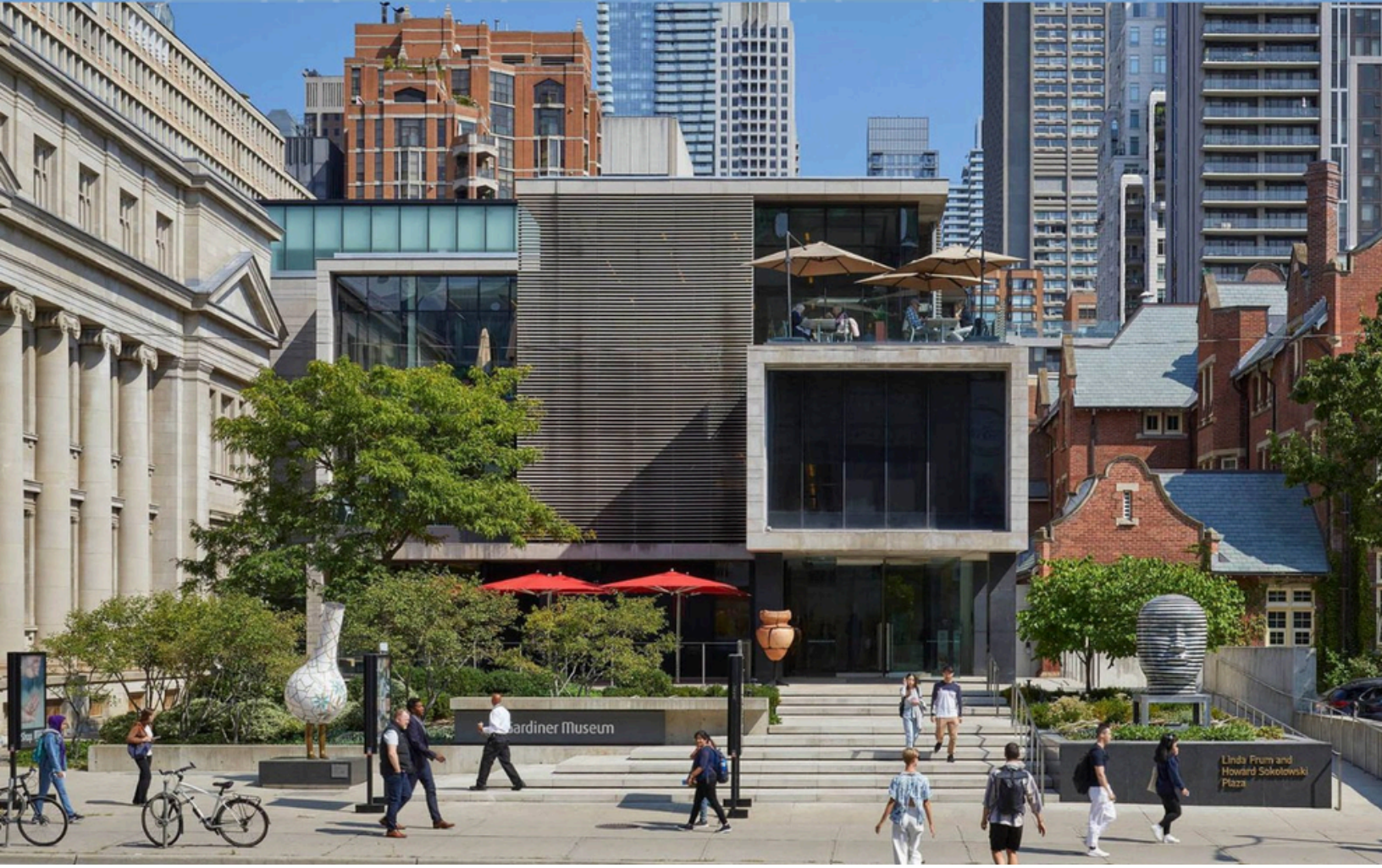
ABOUT THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

Mission
Through the arts, the Aga Khan Museum sparks wonder, curiosity, and understanding of Muslim cultures and their connection with other cultures.

Vision
To impact lives and contribute to more inclusive and peaceful societies.

For additional information please visit our website or contact
learn@agakhanmuseum.org

AGA KHAN MUSEUM



ABOUT THE THE GARDINER MUSEUM

The Gardiner Museum is an internationally-renowned cultural institution and one of the only museums in the world dedicated to ceramics.

The Gardiner's clay programs are a powerful community building tool that help make the arts accessible to everyone. For thousands of young people each year, the Gardiner's hands-on workshops promote confidence, creativity, and community.

Website: **gardinermuseum.com**
Contact: **education@gardinermuseum.com**

Gardiner Museum