

Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University

Fact Sheet

Museum Overview	The first and only stand-alone museum at Duke University. A cornerstone for the arts on campus and in the Southeast.
Groundbreaking	January 2003
Public Opening	October 2, 2005
Location	2001 Campus Drive, Durham, N.C., at Anderson Street and Duke University Road. The museum is situated between the university's East and West campuses and one block from the Sarah P. Duke Gardens.
Design	Five pavilions are arranged to take advantage of the natural contours and open meadows of the physical landscape, encouraging a seamless transition from interior to exterior. Arranged in a radial pattern, the pavilions surround an irregular, pentagonal central courtyard covered by a light canopy of glass and steel. One and a half story glass walls and a green slate floor connect the pavilions and further blur the division between building and nature.
Site	9 acres
Project Cost	\$24 million
Design Architect	Rafael Viñoly
Landscape Architect	Lappas and Havener, Durham, N.C.
Building Size	65,000 square feet
The Nicholas Benjamin Duke Biddle Pavilion (I)	4,600 square feet
The Brenda LaGrange Johnson and Heather Johnson Sargent Pavilion (II)	3,600 square feet
Wilson Pavilion (III)	5,700 square feet
Prakash and Anjali Melwani Education Pavilion	5,300 square feet
Mary D.B.T. Semans Great Hall	13,000 square feet

Building Materials	Pre-cast concrete, glass, green slate, oak and beech wood
Building Facilities	<p>Five pavilions house:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three large gallery spaces • Academic Focus Gallery • 173-seat Lecture Hall • Administrative offices • University and Community classrooms • Nasher Museum Store • 64-seat café with indoor and outdoor seating
Galleries	<p>Three galleries are rectangular boxes, each a different size, allowing for flexibility in the arrangement of artworks. Controlled natural light and floating art walls soften the angles and create intimate spaces. On three sides of each gallery, concealed clerestories allow natural light to filter down between beams spaced eight feet apart. The smaller Academic Focus Gallery, located in the Prakash and Anjali Melwani Education Pavilion, invites collaboration between Duke students and faculty members</p>
Collection	<p>The museum has grown the permanent collection to include some of today's best contemporary art, with a special focus on work by global artists of color as well as an emphasis on photography. Major strengths in the collection of 12,000 objects include European medieval art, European and American paintings, classical antiquities, African art and ancient American (Pre-Columbian) art.</p>
History	<p>The Duke University Museum of Art was founded in 1969 and originally located in a former science building on Duke's East Campus. The museum closed to the public in May 2004 and re-opened as the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University in October 2005.</p>
Director	Sarah Schroth, Mary D.B.T. and James H. Semans Director
Raymond D. Nasher	<p>The museum's namesake and founder was Raymond D. Nasher, a 1943 graduate of Duke University and an internationally prominent art collector, philanthropist and real estate developer.</p>