

# The Wichita Eagle

## Museums worth a road trip from Wichita offer can't-miss art, history and science

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"Composition One for Score A" by Xaviera Simmons is one of the works in "A Divided Landscape" at The Momentary, the contemporary art satellite space to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Arkansas. The exhibition runs through Sept. 25. Courtesy of Xaviera Simmons and David Castillo

Several Wichita attractions are hosting national-caliber exhibitions this summer — check out Exploration Place, Botanica and the Wichita Art Museum. If you want to continue exploring art, history, science and culture, an array of regional museums are presenting new exhibitions and traveling experiences.

These destinations are all within a day's drive of Wichita.

“The Dirty South: Contemporary Art, Material Culture, and the Sonic Impulse,” through July 25, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Ark.: Organized by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, this touring exhibit features 100 years of visual art, material objects, sound and music including accompanying instruments, music videos, costumes, lyrics and personal effects to explore how Black culture has shaped and influenced the South and U.S. contemporary culture at large.

The museum just announced “We the People: The Radical Notion of Democracy,” which will display one of the 11 known original prints of the U.S. Constitution among other founding documents and works by influential historical and contemporary artists. This exhibition opens July 3 and runs through Jan. 2; it is free but requires timed tickets that become available online starting May 25. Crystal Bridges is open Wednesday through Monday, and general admission is free. Access to “The Dirty South” is \$12 for adults, free for veterans and those aged 18 and younger. Get tickets at [crystalbridges.org](http://crystalbridges.org) and see related special events plus other summer exhibitions.

The contemporary art satellite space to Crystal Bridges, The Momentary, also has a full line up of exhibitions and performances this summer. “A Divided Landscape” runs through Sept. 25 and features seven contemporary artists confronting the historical and cultural narratives of the American West. General admission is free and the galleries are open Tuesday through Sunday; see details at [themomentary.org](http://themomentary.org).