



# CITY AS

GRAFFITI ART FROM THE MARTIN WONG COLLECTION

# CANVAS

## EDUCATOR RESOURCE GUIDE

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

**MUSEUM**  
OF THE  
**CITY**  
OF NEW YORK

Frederick A.O.  
Schwarz  
Children's  
Center



The Keith Haring Foundation Inc.

## Introduction

This guide is intended to be used as a resource for teachers either preparing to visit the Museum of the City of New York's *City as Canvas: Graffiti Art from the Martin Wong Collection* or to use in the classroom following a class visit.

During the gallery tour of the *City As Canvas* exhibition, students will view highlights from the Museum's rich collection of 1970s and '80s graffiti art in New York. By analyzing the drawings, paintings, photographs and blackbooks collected by Martin Wong, students will learn about New York City artists known as “writers”, like Keith Haring, Lady Pink, Lee Quiñones, and Daze, and the historical context in which their work was created. Students will be able to elaborate on the multiple perspectives surrounding street art, discuss the various styles represented, and will respond creatively to the pieces by drafting their own sketches.

The information and activities in this guide correlate to the guided tour, but may also be taught as stand-alone lessons utilizing the text, images, and suggested activities. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the information to the grade level and ability of their students. For further information or to schedule a visit to the Museum of the City of New York, please email the Frederick A.O. Schwarz Children's Center at [schoolprograms@mcny.org](mailto:schoolprograms@mcny.org).

## Included in this guide:

- Curriculum Connections
- Key Terms
- Background Information on the Exhibition
- Artist Spotlights: Keith Haring, Wicked Gary, Daze, Futura and Lady Pink
- Suggested Activity:
  - Gallery Review
  - In the Voice of the Artists
  - Debate it! Finding Space for Street Art
  - Write Your Own Exhibition Text

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*City as Canvas: Graffiti Art from the Martin Wong Collection* is made possible by © Museum of the City of New York 2013.

Lead funding for the publication has been provided by the Haring Foundation.



# Resources and Suggested Reading

## Books

Cavalieri, Paul. *From the Platform: Subway Graffiti, 1893-1989*. Atglen: Schiffer Publ, 2011.

Gastman, Roger, and Caleb Neelon. *The History of American Graffiti*. New York: Harper Design, 2010.

Litwack, Matt. *Beneath the Streets: The Hidden Relics of New York City*. Gingko Press, 2014.

Stewart, Jack, and Regina Stewart. *Graffiti Kings: New York City Mass Transit Art of the 1970s*. New York: Melcher Media/Abrams, 2009.

Wong, Martin, Sean Corcoran, and Carlo McCormick. *City As Canvas: New York City Graffiti from the Martin Wong Collection*. New York, NY: Skira Rizzoli: Museum of the City of New York, 2013.

## Films

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Silver, Tony, Henry Chalfant, Sam Schacht, Burleigh Wartes, Sam Pollard, Mary Alfieri, and Victor Kanefsky. *Style Wars*. Los Angeles, Calif: Public Art Films, 2004.

Banksy, Jaimie D'Cruz, Holly Cushing, Zam Baring, James Gay-Rees, and Rhys Ifans. *Exit Through the Gift Shop*. Harrow, England: Paranoid Pictures Film Company Limited, 2010.

## Articles

*Street art: Top ten spots to see street art and graffiti in NYC*

<http://www.timeout.com/newyork/art/street-art-top-ten-spots-to-see-street-art-and-graffiti-in-nyc>

*Got the graffiti bug? Artists have long used New York City as their canvas*

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/graffiti-artists-turn-new-york-city-canvas-article-1.1508451#ixzz31o4vG6Hw>

*A Feast of Street Art, Luminous and Legal*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/30/arts/design/graffiti-art-of-the-city-from-the-bronx-to-brooklyn.html>

*Night Falls, and 5Pointz, a Graffiti Mecca, Is Whited Out in Queens*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/20/nyregion/5pointz-a-graffiti-mecca-in-queens-is-wiped-clean-overnight.html? r=0>

*Writing Was on the Wall, and Some Still Remains*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/07/arts/design/graffiti-art-at-the-museum-of-the-city-of-new-york.html? r=4>

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