Expansion FAQs

General Questions
Q. Where will ICP’s museum be once it leaves Midtown Manhattan?
A. ICP is expanding to several new sites in 2015.
   - Our Museum and Store are moving downtown, to an exciting new space on the Bowery. ICP Bowery will open later this year. Details are being finalized, and updates about our relocation will be shared on our website.
   - Our Collection is moving to a much larger facility within Mana Contemporary in Jersey City, New Jersey. ICP Mana will open to the public in early 2015.
   - Our School and Library will remain in their current location—ICP Midtown.

Q. Why the Bowery?
A. The Bowery is one of the most dynamic neighborhoods in Manhattan. Adjacent to Soho, Greenwich Village, and the Lower East Side and easily accessible by public transportation, this area is already home to the New Museum, the Storefront for Art and Architecture, the Museum of Chinese in America, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, and many galleries. We are thrilled to have found a new home there, and we are confident it will enable us to expand our community and serve our mission as the leading institution in the world devoted to photography, visual culture, and the evolving role of images in the 21st century.

Q. Can I still shop at the Store?
A. Yes. While the ICP Store won’t have a physical location for a while, it will stay open online. The physical ICP Store will reopen in the new Museum.

Q. Is the ICP Museum moving to New Jersey?
A. No. While ICP will have a small gallery at Mana Contemporary Arts Center—which is in Jersey City—this location will primarily house our collection and related archival materials. ICP Mana, which is significantly larger than our former collection storage facility, is allowing us expand our collection and pursue more digital initiatives. We are excited to be a part of the vibrant arts community that has been developing at Mana Contemporary over the past several years.

Q. Is the ICP School moving?
A. No. The School and Library will stay in their current location in Midtown Manhattan. Classes that the School holds at other sites and studios that it maintains elsewhere, including the Bronx and Long Island City, will continue.

For Members
Q. Will my benefits change?
A. Members will continue to receive all benefits—including some new and expanded offerings—while the Museum is moving downtown. And as a special thank you, we will extend all memberships during our relocation phase so that members may enjoy the full benefits of Museum access free of charge once we open our new space downtown.
Q. Will I still get discounts to the ICP Store and Café?
A. Members will continue to receive the same discounts at our online Store during construction. We expect our new location downtown to have both a Store and a dining space, and members will receive discounts to both.

For Current & Potential Students
Q. How will the changes in location of the Museum and Collection affect my educational experience?
A. The changes will enhance the student experience, as the new locations will offer exciting new activities and programs.

Q. Will my access to the Collection and Museum change?
A. While it may take a little longer for many to get to these spaces, the trip will be worth it. Expanding our collection and our programs will increase the resources and opportunities available to everyone.

Q. The Museum plays an important part in my experience as an ICP student. Will the new space be conveniently located so I can still benefit from the museum?
A. Yes. The new exhibition space is in a terrific central location, well-served by public transportation.

Q. Will the curators and curatorial staff still teach courses?
A. Yes. Our curators will continue to teach courses, and our collection will be accessible to students. Drawing upon all of the resources of the ICP Museum, Library, Collection, and School, our new facilities will allow us to expand our offerings, and provide a more dynamic and comprehensive educational experience than ever before.

Q. Will the new locations provide increased space for student exhibitions?
A. Yes. We have a beautiful new gallery at Mana, which can be used for student exhibitions, and where students from our part-time track program already exhibited work during summer 2014. We are also exploring new ways to integrate the School with our downtown Museum space, and to show student work there as well.

Q. What changes can I expect at the School?
A. This is an exciting time to be an ICP student. We are enhancing our visual literacy curriculum, introducing a certificate program in New Media Narratives, and expanding our reach through new partnerships and online learning programs. These new programs, along with the hundreds of courses we already offer each year with access to digital labs for multimedia and video, black-and-white and color labs, a shooting studio, and the ICP Library, will allow us to build on what we already provide to our students: full- and part-time educational programs, online and in-person continuing education for adults, and our Teen Academy.

Q. In the future, will ICP seek accreditation for its full-time programs?
A. ICP is committed to the best interests of our students. Our joint MFA program with Bard College is already accredited, and we are seriously exploring this option for our other full-time programs.

Q. Will the Museum Education program continue in the new exhibition space?
A. Yes. Everything that we now provide—guided and self-guided tours, interpretative materials, and events for educators and families—will not only continue but be augmented in our new space.

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