Big Ideas & Major Themes
Here’s some information relating to your program to review with your students before your virtual tour experience.

- There is a long history of funerary and burial rituals in China which impacted art production for centuries.
- When religions (like Buddhism) spread to other cultures they are often integrated with current practices.
- Art and architecture can be a way for governments or politicians to publicly demonstrate their authority.

Works from the 250 Covered
182. Buddha. Bamiyan, Afghanistan
184. Jowo Rinpoche, enshrined in the Jokhang Temple
193. Terracotta warriors
194. Funeral banner of Lady Dai (Xin Zhui)
195. Longmen caves
201. Travelers among Mountains and Streams, Fan Kuan.
204. The David Vases
206. Forbidden City

Extensions In the Classroom
Extend your visit by trying one or more of these activities with your students.

- Ideally your students will be familiar with Greco-Roman art, early Medieval Christian art, and the foundation of Islam prior to this tour so that they can draw comparisons and make connections.
- After their visit, have your students explore the 360 virtual tour of the Freer Sackler’s Tibetan Shrine Room. (See link below.) Ask students to find particular information (e.g. What is a vajra?) or share information about one particular aspect they discovered.
- Have students create their own version of blue-and-white porcelain ware using Styrofoam/paper plates and blue pens. Ask them to follow particular patterns, designs, and decorative motifs employed by Chinese artists in the Yuan Dynasty.
- Have students compare two forms of architecture created by a political power that they have seen thus far. Consider orientation, purpose, design, and ornament.
- Ask students to imagine that life is discovered on another planet and humans have decided to bring one work of art to represent all of humanity. Have students select one work of art from the 250 and argue a case for why it should be considered to represent human history and accomplishments.

Resources
Want to explore more? Review these references to learn and share information with your students.

- Terracotta Warriors (NatGeo) https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/exploreorg/00000144-0a35-d3cb-a96c-7b3df1330000
- Longmen Caves (Smarthistory) https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/south-east-se-asia/china-art/y/longmen-grottoes-unesconhk
- Freer Sackler Tibetan Shrine Room https://asia.si.edu/interactives/sacred-spaces/shrine-room-landing.html