



Curator of Education, Academic Initiatives

Position Number: AS8639

Position Approval: 09.17.2024

POSITION SUMMARY

In support of OSU Museum of Art's commitment to enhance students' visual literacy and critical thinking skills, the Curator of Education, Academic Initiatives will collaborate with faculty across campus to develop innovative academic programs grounded in art and using the museum's art collection, exhibitions, and programs. The Curator will bridge the museum and OSU campus through in-depth curriculum-based programs and other initiatives that will foster faculty and student reliance on the museum's resources, particularly the permanent collection and its special exhibitions, as integral learning tools. This position will strengthen existing programs and implement new ones, pursue active collaborations across campus, and play a key role in developing and achieving short and long-term educational goals for the museum, the university, and community. The Curator will work closely with the educational team and co-lead initiatives engaging the OSU Museum of Art as a teaching museum and host for cross-disciplinary and civic dialogue. This position is a continuing 12-month administrative and professional staff position reporting to the Director of the Museum.

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES (60%)

- Collaborate with colleagues across campus in support of strategic plans and initiatives of the OSU Museum of Art and OSU.
- Implement new strategies that encourage faculty and student use of the museum in innovative ways to build long-term relationships and faculty and program directors' commitment to ensure student participation in programming.
- Lead lectures and discussion-based sessions for classes in the galleries and the Collection vault/classroom.
- Prepare interpretive materials for tours and/or discussions.
- Coordinate with Museum staff to develop and implement visiting artist workshops, presentations, gallery talks, lectures related to museum exhibitions, and special projects as assigned.
- Assist with all aspects of educational programming as needed, including filling in and co-leading tours for all age groups and providing support.
- With the Exhibition team, collaborate to create exhibition-specific programming and in-gallery learning opportunities; provide interpretive counsel; and contribute to text panels and didactics.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES (30%)

- Participate as a senior staff member of the Museum in the development and implementation of institutional plans, long-range budgets, and other initiatives.
- Manage Academic Initiatives budget with Coordinator of Fiscal Operations. Work with the Education team to coordinate overall education budget, purchase of supplies, facility rental and set up, programming scheduling, and negotiate contracts with Visiting Artists as needed.
- Contribute to development and fund-raising initiatives, including active participation in grant writing, management, and reporting.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of an evaluation process to assess effectiveness of Museum programming and visitor response, including a database of tour demographics and attendance; audience response data; collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data; maintenance of educational reference material and program archive for Museum education and exhibition events.
- Maintain active membership in the larger museum community, including attending conferences and presenting on innovative programs and initiatives.
- Supervise an education intern and/or a graduate research assistant. Provide training in art education, leading and developing tours, archival research, and curatorial practices.
- Perform other related duties as directed to achieve the goals, mission, and objectives of the museum.

CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES (10%)

- In collaboration with the Associate Director and other Museum staff, organize exhibition programming for the museum that is relevant to faculty and students in diverse departments; participate in shaping outreach for education programs pertaining to the collection.
- Become knowledgeable about the Museum's collections; contribute to program development that advances knowledge of objects; and support the administration of programs that access collections such as database/ web interface, and scholar access.
- Lead research projects and generate 1-2 exhibition proposals per year pertaining to the permanent collections. To include interpretive material and information on works in the collection through object research, lectures, and publications that facilitate research interests of faculty and students in diverse departments.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Experience in developing and implementing educational programs.
- Knowledge of and commitment to current interpretive practices and audience engagement strategies for art museums.
- Exceptional communicator through written communications and public speaking.
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to manage multiple projects effectively.
- High degree of professionalism, close attention to detail, and ability to meet deadlines.
- Excellent interpersonal skills to interact with diverse groups of individuals maintaining a professional, courteous, and tactful demeanor.

- Ability to establish and maintain positive working relationships with staff, volunteers, and a diverse public.
- Strong computer skills including experience working in Microsoft Office applications.
- Ability to work some evening and weekend hours.
- Ability to lift and carry objects weighing up to 25 lbs.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in art education, museum education, or related field
- Three years of experience in art education or related field

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in art education, art history, or related field – strongly preferred
- Experience in higher education, museums, or cultural heritage institutions
- Experience with contemporary practices in all levels of museum education