

THE JOSLYN

CURATORIAL DEPARTMENT

Job Title

Assistant/Associate Curator of American Art

Employment Status

Full-Time | Exempt

Location

On-Site | in person

Department

Curatorial

Reporting Responsibility

Chief Curator

Position Summary

Joslyn Art Museum seeks applicants for an endowed curatorial position devoted to American and American Western. The position is open at the Assistant or Associate Curator level and offers a motivated individual the opportunity to create a dynamic program for American art, encompassing collections, exhibitions, research, and interpretation. Together with the Curator of Native American Art, the curator will also help shape the vision and initiatives of the Museum's Margre H. Durham Center for Western Studies, a research institute charged with stewarding and interpreting the Museum's rich collections of Western art, including the Maximilian-Bodmer and Alfred Jacob Miller collections. The Richard and Mary Holland Assistant/Associate Curator of American Western Art will join the Museum at a pivotal time in the institution's history, following the completion of an ambitious expansion and renovation, and coinciding with the launch of a new website, brand, and strategic plan.

Major Duties

- Direct the development, care, and installation of the Museum's collection of historical American art
- Research and publish on the Museum's collection of American art and contribute original scholarship to the field
- Develop original exhibitions and installations
- Coordinate incoming loan exhibitions
- Collaborate with Curatorial and Learning & Engagement staff to advance new interpretive strategies for the permanent collection and temporary exhibitions
- Assist in the cultivation and stewardship of donors and patrons
- Conceptualize and implement events and public programs at The Joslyn and with community partners
- Adhere to policies and procedures as outlined in the Employee Handbook
- When interfacing with the public, ensure all visitors to the Museum have a positive experience
- Remain knowledgeable about Museum activities, services, and layout and be willing to assist any visitor
- Other duties related to your department as assigned

Minimum Qualifications

- PhD in art history or ABD required with broad expertise in historical American art. Familiarity with art of the American West is preferred

- Minimum three to five years' curatorial experience in an art museum
- Ability to plan, organize, and present exhibitions
- Accomplished record of original research and publications
- Knowledge of best practices for collections management
- Exemplary oral and written communication skills and facility with public speaking
- Established network of curators, scholars, collectors, and dealers and strong working relationships with other experts in the field
- Familiarity with the auction and sales market for historical American art
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues across Museum departments
- Enthusiasm for building positive relationships with donors, collectors, and the public

Physical Qualifications

Mobility:

- Ability to navigate museum galleries, storage areas, and off-site locations to assess, install, and care for artwork, as well as to attend meetings and events in various museum areas

Stationary Tasks:

- Ability to remain seated for prolonged periods when conducting research, writing, or attending meetings
- Comfort with prolonged standing as needed for overseeing installations or leading gallery tours

Body Movements:

- Occasional bending, reaching, and kneeling to handle or inspect artworks and collections
- Dexterity to handle fragile and delicate objects with care

Physical Stamina:

- Capacity to work long hours during exhibition installations or special events, including evenings and weekends

Visual & Communication:

- Strong visual acuity required for assessing artwork condition, color, and detail

Compensation

Salary: \$55,000–70,000

Qualifications and experience will be considered in the compensation for this position.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided to qualified individuals in accordance with the applicable federal, state, and local law. If reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in the hiring process, to perform the essential functions of the job, and/or to receive other benefits and privileges of employment, please contact careers@joslyn.org.

To Apply

Please submit your cover letter and CV via email to careers@joslyn.org, and include the job role in the subject line. Joslyn Art Museum believes in fostering diversity and equal opportunity as integral parts of its hiring practices, upholding its commitment as an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply for this position. The Joslyn offers competitive compensation and a generous benefits package to eligible employees.

Our Mission

The Joslyn brings people together to explore art across time and cultures.

Joslyn Art Museum was a gift to the people of Omaha from Sarah Joslyn in memory of her husband, George. From its first day, November 29, 1931, to today, the Museum has welcomed millions of visitors from around the world. The Joslyn's collection of over 12,000 objects represents 5,000 years of human creativity and the world's diverse cultures. The campus comprises three stunning buildings—distinct yet connected—surrounded by sculpture gardens. Learning and engagement opportunities abound, and general admission is free to all, always.