

Henry

ASSOCIATE CURATOR OF PUBLIC AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

*Posted Nov 2018
Open until Filled*

ABOUT THE HENRY: The Henry Art Gallery was founded as Washington State's first art museum in 1926, by Seattle entrepreneur Horace C. Henry, on the principle that art stimulates inquiry, fosters knowledge, and builds healthy communities. Located on the campus of the University of Washington (UW), Seattle, the Henry is internationally recognized for its research and presentation of contemporary art. The mission of the Henry Art Gallery is to advance contemporary art, artists, and ideas. With a permanent collection of over 26,000 objects and the Reed Collection Study Center (RCSC), the Henry is a key cultural resource and training ground in the visual arts for K–20 students, scholars, artists, and general audiences of all ages. Core values include collaboration, diversity and inclusion, risk-taking, transparency, accountability, excellence, and service.

POSITION PURPOSE: The Associate Curator of Public and Youth Programs is responsible for defining and leading the Henry's program offerings for a wide spectrum of adult, teen, and family audiences. The position is responsible for creating a broad vision and framework for engaging all ages in learning, understanding and transformative experiences related to the Henry's exhibitions and collections. The Associate Curator will build on and hone the current range of program offerings and forge the identity of the museum's youth, family, and multi-generational programs through active collaboration with museum and university colleagues, as well as artists, creatives, and community partners. The Associate Curator is part of a non-hierarchical Curatorial Team and joins a majority of curatorial meetings to collectively brainstorm programmatic approaches to core ideas. The Associate Curator works closely with multiple departments to integrate learning and access considerations for varied and multi-generational audiences. She/he/they also oversee evaluation strategies across programming to ensure quality and relevancy. The Associate Curator reports to the John S. Behnke Director and supervises the Public and Youth Program Coordinator, interns, workstudy, and volunteers.

STATUS: University of Washington Exempt Employee

REPORTS TO: John S. Behnke Director

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Develops and directs the Henry's public and youth programs based on initiatives and core ideas related to exhibitions and collections.
- Collaborates with Senior and Associate Curators to identify artists, guest speakers, and support exhibition components that have performative and programmatic elements.
- Conceptualizes and oversees a wide range of topics, formats, and interpretive approaches that appeal to diverse audiences. Fosters innovative program formats in response to various audiences' ways of approaching the museum.
- Oversees educational initiatives as they relate to exhibitions, resources for educators and families, and professional development of teaching artists, workstudy, interns, and volunteers who interface with the public.
- Works closely with the Visitor Experience Team to support pedagogical and relational approaches to K-12, Academic, and Community group visits—supporting the professional development of the Visitor Experience Representative team and collaborating on communication and resources provided to external groups.
- Initiates, sustains, and fosters community partnerships and relationships that make programming vibrant and informed by a diversity of key constituents in Seattle.
- Oversees a yearly schedule of approximately 65+ programs that include:
 - 40% Public Programming (College-aged, Adult, Seniors)
 - 30% Teen Programming
 - 20% Family Programming
 - 5% Community/School Group Visit support
 - 5% Multi-generational Partner-driven programming
- Manages annual and program-specific budgets. Works with Development staff to secure additional funding where necessary to support programs.
- Ensures a diverse and equitable representation of races, genders, and ableness across program topics, artists, and program guests.
- Writes text and works strategically to think about how to communicate with multiple audiences and interest groups.
- Works in tandem with the Henry's External Relations and Communications team to ensure a strong web and social media presence. Plans strategically for documentation of programs and considers the impact of programs beyond their initial presentation.
- Partners with Operations and Visitor Experience Team to inform visitors about programs and to expand audience awareness and participation.
- Continually improves and refines the Henry's programs by evaluating events for quality, attendance, and educational content.
- Supervises the Public and Youth Programs Coordinator, assigned work-study students and/or interns, as required.
- Is present at the majority of public and youth programs, working evenings and weekends as needed.
- Other duties as assigned.

REQUIRED SKILLS:

- Masters' Degree and typically three years of educational, curatorial, or museum programming experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and positive attitude that supports department's goals.

- Ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with museum audiences.
- Attention to detail and ability to conceptualize steps involved in implementing programs and events as well as to see big picture. Well-developed written and oral communication skills; ability to communicate in a professional manner.
- Self-directed with the ability to take initiative and anticipate actions needed; ability to exercise discretion and independent judgment and to be a team player in an active museum environment.
- Ability to lead, manage, delegate, and juggle multiple tasks and meet demanding deadlines. Proven ability to work well under pressure while exhibiting professionalism, a customer service attitude, and consistent flexibility in a busy environment.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Significant experience in arts programming with experience in a museum/university environment.
- Deep and broad engagement in contemporary ideas and culture in keeping with the Henry's mission.
- Proven understanding of contemporary art across disciplines.
- Wide network of contacts within current creative/intellectual communities.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION: The Henry is committed to racial diversity and inclusion. Qualified individuals who bring diverse perspectives to the workplace are encouraged to apply. The Henry is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer. We are committed to providing a positive working environment for employees, students, volunteers, and artists.

To apply: Please contact

<https://uw hires.admin.washington.edu/ENG/candidates/default.cfm?szLocationID=88> and search for requisition #162925. No phone calls, please.