

## ASSOCIATE CURATOR OF CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM OF WISCONSIN ART

### POSITION SUMMARY

The Museum of Wisconsin Art seeks an experienced and innovative curator with expertise in contemporary art. Reporting to the executive director, the associate curator of contemporary art will collaborate in the presentation and development of the museum's collections and take a significant role in the production of relevant exhibitions and programs that foster engagement with the museum's diverse audiences and multiple constituents. The associate curator will work in a collaborative manner with three other curators to build trust and respect throughout MOWA's team-centric organization. The successful candidate must be at ease in a highly visible and public role that includes cultivating relationships with artists, donors, collectors, scholars, and the broader art world.

### ABOUT MOWA

A vital cultural center, educational institution, an expanding network of ideas, the Museum of Wisconsin Art collects and interprets American art through the lens of a single state. Informed by dynamic initiatives and collaborations, MOWA is an innovative forum for contemporary artists, socially relevant exhibitions, lectures by artists and industry experts, and engaging classes and activities for all ages. The museum has two permanent venues—the West Bend “Mothership” and MOWA | DTN in downtown Milwaukee's Saint Kate—The Arts Hotel—as well as two partnering community organizations that create access across the state. MOWA annually welcomes 200,000 visitors, making it a cultural destination for the art and artists of our time.

### CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

- MA in art history, MFA, or commensurate experience; a concentration in contemporary art preferred
- A minimum of two years of curatorial experience and knowledge of museum standards and practices
- A respected leader with a record of achievement that includes exhibitions and publications
- Excellent writing skills; successful grant writing experience is a plus
- Strong supervisory and mentoring skills
- Ability to manage multiple projects and priorities simultaneously

### BENEFITS

Position includes full-time employee benefits.

### HOW TO APPLY

Please submit applications by email as instructed below. Provide the following documents as Microsoft Word or PDF files.

- **Cover Letter** explaining your qualifications and interest in the position
- **Current Resume** outlining education and any relevant work history
- **Writing Samples** demonstrating interpretive writing and critical thinking
- **Two Letters of Recommendation** by an academic professional, employer, or someone familiar with your abilities and character. These letters of reference should be submitted

directly by the recommender to MOWA's Executive Assistant at  
[GGustrowsky@wisconsinart.org](mailto:GGustrowsky@wisconsinart.org).

Submit all application materials (except letters of recommendation) as attachments in a single email to Gina Gustrowsky at [Ggustrowsky@wisconsinart.org](mailto:Ggustrowsky@wisconsinart.org). After a shortlisting process, the finalists will be invited to an interview.

**Job Description:** Associate Curator of Contemporary Art

**Job Type:** Exempt

**Job Status:** Full-time

**Reports to:** Executive Director

**Updated:** May 2022

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### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Work collaboratively with the director of the museum and other curators to develop and implement an exhibition program that ensures balance, scholarship, and value for the museum's diverse audiences
- Serve on the senior management team to ensure commitment to and support of the museum's exhibitions and programs
- Engage with university art, art history, studio/design, and humanities departments to foster academic interest and collaboration in MOWA's curatorial program

- Supervise and work closely with the Mona Boulware Webb Curatorial Engagement Fellow to build ongoing connections and partnerships with diverse communities
- Oversee the museum's artist-in-residence program in Luxembourg and supervise curatorial interns as needed
- Assist in developing a collections plan, setting priorities, and building external support for acquisitions
- Provide curatorial content for publications and interpretative materials as needed
- Conduct lectures, gallery talks, and public programs on topics related to the collections, exhibitions, and mission of the museum
- Participate in museum-related community service, such as serving on review panels and being a presence and advocate in the arts community
- Works with the executive director and director of development to build financial support for the collection, exhibitions, and related programs
- Work across the institution to develop museum experiences that foster progressive and innovative forms of engagement
- Cultivate good working relationships with contemporary artists as well as board members, patrons, collectors, art dealers, and university faculty

### **SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Exhibit effective communication, organization, and time-management skills
- Strong record of research and scholarship, with proven experience in organizing significant projects
- Resourceful, flexible, and a demonstrated ability to work both independently and in a highly collaborative environment
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a positive attitude that supports department and museum goals
- Proficiency with MS Office products, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and other software applications

### **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Maintain a stationary or sitting position for extended periods of time
- Able to lift up to 30 pounds

### **WORK SCHEDULE**

Full time, 40 hours weekly during normal business hours and will require occasional evening and weekend hours for exhibition openings, programs, and special events.

### **BENEFITS**

Position includes full-time benefits.

*Disclaimer: The preceding job description has been designed to describe a general summary along with essential responsibilities of work performed. It does not contain a comprehensive inventory of responsibilities, duties, and skills or qualifications required of an employee to do this job. This job description does not establish an agreement or contract for employment and position functions are subject to change at the discretion of the employer. The Museum of Wisconsin Art is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.*

