

The Henry Art Gallery

Deputy Director of Art and Education

OVERVIEW: The Deputy Director of Art and Education (DDAE) is charged with developing artistic programming, overseeing collection growth and management, shaping education initiatives, and partnering with museum development efforts to advance the mission and vision of the Henry. The DDAE will work closely with the Director and with senior managers to develop strategies to meet artistic, educational, and financial goals of the Henry. With an 83-year history of championing the art and ideas of its time, the Henry has a longstanding history as a laboratory of innovation and new ideas. Today, the museum is being shaped as a creative commons, engaging multiple voices in its programs and activities. In the spirit of fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, the DDAE will oversee the work of curatorial and education staff, guest curators, visiting scholars, and university affiliates. The ideal candidate for this position will be an innovative curator and educator who has a track record of taking risks and achieving excellence in artistic and education programming. This individual must be a collaborative team player, an innovative and strategic thinker, and a highly effective manager capable of developing and mentoring staff.

STATUS: University of Washington Exempt Employee

REPORTS TO: Director, Henry Art Gallery

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: Major responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

Art & Education

- Provide strategic leadership, oversight, implementation and management of integrated collection, exhibition, and education initiatives at the Henry.
- Develop a new model for integrating curatorial and education initiatives that support the Henry's mission and enhances interdisciplinary audience engagement.
- Generate special exhibitions and collection presentations. Research and prepare catalogues, essays, wall texts, labels, and promotional materials for exhibitions. Identify potential partners or venues for tour of Henry exhibitions.
- Develop a publication program that provides a lasting record of Henry exhibitions, collections, and scholarly contributions to the field.
- Develop a long-range strategy for building, showcasing, and preserving Henry collections. Ensure professional care of the collection by curatorial staff, following best practices in collection management.
- Oversee the Board's Committee on Collections. Make recommendations for acquisitions based on aesthetic merit, scholarship, condition, and provenance.
- Form and lead Education Advisory Committee made up of UW Deans, faculty, students, peer educators, and Henry staff.
- Work collaboratively with Deputy Director of External Relations to promote and publicize exhibitions and education activities.
- Conduct research and attend professional conferences to remain informed about current contemporary art issues and new education programming

techniques.

Staff & Budget Management

- Motivate and lead a high performance, results-driven curatorial and education team. Plan, assign, and review the work of curatorial and education staff. Participate in the hiring and evaluation of staff.
- Foster collaboration and encourage open and respectful dialogue and debate.
- Oversee curatorial and education budgets. Prioritize expenses to meet strategic goals of the department and ensure a balanced budget.
- Foster future museum professionals by mentoring staff and interns.

Leadership & Development

- As a member of the museum's senior management team, participate in strategic planning across departments. Annually review curatorial and educational goals in the Henry's strategic plan. Assess progress and make adjustments to goals as needed.
- Work with the Director and Deputy Director of External Relations to identify funding sources in support of exhibitions, collections, and education programs.
- Provide creative content and support materials for grant proposals.
- Serve as an articulate and persuasive spokesperson for the Henry to funders, other arts organizations, the University of Washington, the press and the public.
- As ambassador for the Henry, make presentations to key stakeholder groups, and support the museum's mission, institutional goals, Board and staff.
- Conform to the Association of Art Museums' code of ethics, conflict of interest policies and professional practice guidelines.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications, Skills and Abilities:

- Advanced degree in art history with an emphasis on contemporary art and culture, or equivalent level of education and experience required (PhD preferred).
- Minimum of 8 years experience as a curator and 5 years experience fostering, curatorial and educational collaborations.
- Distinguished record of scholarship, original research, and article and book publication.
- Knowledge of the latest developments in contemporary art and criticism, multi-media and time arts, and education initiatives.
- Proven success with patron development and with attracting funding from grants and foundations.
- Ability to be a team player and team builder; to lead and share leadership; to be responsible for details while seeing the big picture and working for the greater good of the organization.
- Demonstrated management and supervisory skills. Ability to coordinate and integrate the work activities of a team and provide regular constructive performance feedback.

- Ability to assess priorities and work well under pressure; excellent time management, problem solving, and analytical skills.
- Experience working collaboratively in a challenging, fast-paced environment.
- Ability to effectively represent the museum and deal professionally and effectively with a wide range of individuals and organizations inside and outside of the museum. Ability to adhere to Museum policies and support executive and Board decisions. Ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Knowledge of and ability to adhere to best professional practices, and to ensure that those policies and practices are understood and followed by curatorial and education staff.
- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Proficiency and expertise using a wide range of MS Office products including Word and Excel, as well as other software applications.