AUBURN
Human Resources

Curator of American Art Associate

Job Description

JOB INFORMATION

Job Code	AB49
Job Description Title	Curator of American Art Associate
Pay Grade	LM09
Range Minimum	$50,670
33rd %	$60,800
Range Midpoint	$65,870
67th %	$70,930
Range Maximum	$81,070
Exemption Status	Exempt
Approved Date:	2/16/2026 5:39:08 PM

JOB FAMILY AND FUNCTION

Job Family:	Libraries, Archives & Museums
Job Function:	Curator

JOB SUMMARY

Reporting to the Janet L. Nolan Director of Curatorial and Educational Affairs at The Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, the Associate Curator of American Art advances scholarship on art and artists, organizing innovative exhibitions, as well as contributing to scholarly publications and dynamic engagements, drawing on the remarkable university art collection amongst others. The curator contributes to building the collection at Auburn University as well as to academic engagement, working with colleagues in museum education to develop new interpretations of American art, for a multi-disciplinary audience of faculty, students, and visiting scholars.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conceives, researches, and implements at least one major exhibition annually that advances scholarship on art of, influenced by, or connected to the American South, with a particular focus on developing scholarship related to works in the collection of Auburn University. Works closely with colleagues to ensure exhibitions meet institutional goals and provides an exceptional visitor experience.
- Plans and executes the Auburn Forum for Southern Art and Culture, a signature program at the museum, which annually convenes artists, scholars, and thought leaders for a public dialogue about art and culture in the American South. Ensures the Forum reflects the museum's commitment to fostering critical conversations about the role of Southern art in the broader narrative of American art.
- Undertakes in-depth research on art and artists, producing scholarship that contributes to the field of art history. Produces scholarly publications, exhibition catalogs, and interpretive materials. Identifies new research opportunities and publishes findings in peer-reviewed journals, exhibition catalogs, and other scholarly platforms. Presents research at national and international conferences and represents the museum in academic and public forums.
- Works closely with private collections as well as other cultural institutions to strengthen partnerships that enhance access to and interpretation of American art connected to the American South. Develops joint projects, share resources, and create opportunities for collaborative exhibitions and research initiatives.
- Contributes to the development and care of the museum's collection by connecting the development staff to potential donors, assessing conservation needs, recommending strategic acquisitions to the leadership team, and ensuring proper documentation of objects. Collaborates with the museum registrar to maintain the highest standards of collection management.
- Builds and sustains relationships with artists, scholars, collectors, and peer institutions to support exhibitions, research, and programming. Actively participates in professional organizations and contribute to the advancement of curatorial practice.
- Integrates the museum's resources into Auburn University's teaching and research mission by collaborating with faculty, mentoring students, and developing programs that enhance learning across disciplines. Supports the Academic Engagement Manager with class visits and appointments in the Study Room.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represents the museum at professional conferences, donor events, and public programs. Communicates the museum’s vision and initiatives to diverse audiences, strengthening its profile locally, nationally, and internationally.

The responsibilities listed above show the typical duties for jobs in this classification. Actual tasks may differ depending on the department's needs. Other similar duties may be assigned with discretion of the supervisor. Not every duty will apply to every position, and the amount of time spent on each task can change based on department needs.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisory Responsibility	No supervisory responsibilities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

To be eligible, an individual must meet all minimum requirements which are representative of the knowledge, skills, and abilities typically expected to be successful in the role. For education and experience, minimum requirements are listed on the top row below. If substitutions are available, they will be listed on subsequent rows and may only to be utilized when the candidate does not meet the minimum requirements.

MINIMUM EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

Education Level	Focus of Education		Years of Experience	Focus of Experience	
Master's Degree	in no specific discipline.	and	3 years of	experience working with exhibitions and collections. Experience implementing academic programs, engagement and experiences for diverse audiences in higher education, including working with faculty, mentoring students, and integrating collections into teaching and research is desired.	

MINIMUM KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, & ABILITIES

Demonstrated knowledge of American art, with strong interest in art and artists connected to the American South.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS & WORKING CONDITIONS

Physical Demands Category:	Office and Administrative Support

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Physical Demand	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Constantly	Weight
Standing			X			
Walking			X			
Sitting					X	
Lifting		X				
Climbing		X				
Stooping/ Kneeling/ Crouching		X				
Reaching		X				
Talking					X	
Hearing					X	
Repetitive Motions				X		
Eye/Hand/Foot Coordination				X		

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Working Condition	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Constantly
Extreme temperatures		X			
Hazards		X			
Wet and/or humid		X			
Noise			X		
Chemical		X			
Dusts		X			
Poor ventilation		X			

Vision Requirements:

Ability to see information in print and/or electronically, should have depth perception and the ability to distinguish colors.

Travel Requirements:

In-State; Domestic