



WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM OF ART

Art Bridges Project Coordinator

Do you believe art is a powerful force that can encourage dialogue and build stronger communities? Are you deeply interested in furthering work that is innovative and experimental; multi-disciplinary; and audience-building? If so, then you might be a great fit for the Art Bridges Project Coordinator at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Full-time, three-year position in the curatorial department to support administrative duties and collection research for the Art Bridges Initiative project, a collaboration between the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art and four museums across the American South: Clark Atlanta University Art Museum; Columbia Museum of Art, South Carolina; Mobile Museum of Art, Alabama; and Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Alabama. Under the guidance of the curators of American Art and American Decorative Arts, this position will provide critical organizational support and necessary research for a series of collection-sharing exhibitions with the Wadsworth and the partner museums. The exhibitions will engage the Wadsworth's wide-ranging American Art and American Decorative Art collections including paintings, sculpture, furniture, design and decorative arts, as well as costumes and textiles, from the 1700s to pre-1960, alongside the partner museums' collections. Travel stipend available to support project-related research visits as needed.

The Art Bridges Initiative (ABI) supports multi-year, multi-institutional collaborative exhibition partnerships that deeply engage local communities with art of the United States. Through collaborative exhibitions, this partnership will expand access to American art by making significant works of art accessible to new audiences; developing innovative narratives that expand the stories told by and about American art; and exploring shared themes reflective of our nation's history and its diverse regional identities.

Responsibilities:

The administrative duties of the project include:

- Serving as the point of contact between the Wadsworth and the four partners for Art Bridges for all exhibition project-related communications and shared materials
- Coordinating and tracking progress of exhibition development and deliverables
- Schedule internal and external meetings as needed, including annual convenings of all partners (in-person and virtual); prepare agendas/meeting materials and distribute summaries; schedule guest speakers as needed
- Draft narrative and gather additional materials for biannual grant reporting; work closely with the finance department to ensure project budget information is accurate and properly tracked

The curatorial research and support include:



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- Update and enhance curatorial research files to aid exhibition development and interpretation. May include offsite travel to consult relevant research materials and resources
- Respond to object-related questions from the partner museums as needed
- Support the development of interpretative strategies for each venue including written text/labels, gallery guides, and multi-media content (audio tours, touch-screen interactives, digital features, etc.)
- Working with the Art Bridges Fellow in the registration department at the Wadsworth Atheneum track the preparation of objects (assessment, treatment, photography) for display at all venues
- Liaise with marketing and promotional departments to identify signature images and create consistent exhibition-related content and messaging

The ideal candidate is a museum professional with an avid interest in integrating fine art with material culture to enrich and deepen contextualization of American art and history. Previous curatorial experience and/or project management within a museum or gallery setting, fine art or historical is preferred. Knowledge and/or experience with art handling is preferred, but not required. The candidate must have a college degree, preferably with a focus in Art History, American Studies, Material Culture, or a related field, but all levels of postsecondary education will be considered. Experience may be substituted for educational requirement. Travel stipend available to support project-related research.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in history, art history, library science, museum studies or related field.
- Advanced degree in art history or extensive equivalent related experience, demonstrating scholarly ability in the field of art history through publications, conference papers, and other activities.
- 3 to 5 years of experience working in a museum or related setting.
- Excellent verbal and written communication with ability to write in a lively and conversational style.
- Experience in communicating with a general audience with demonstrated presentation skills.
- Proficiency with collections management software.
- Familiarity with digital media and their uses in interpretative strategies.
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment as well as independently.

The preceding job description has been designed to indicate the general nature and essential functions and responsibilities of work performed by the employee in this job position. It may not contain a comprehensive list of all duties, responsibilities, and qualifications required for this role. Nothing in this job description restricts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time.



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Wadsworth Atheneum is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status.

How to Apply:

Please apply for this position by sending a cover letter noting the reason for your interest and salary requirements, plus your resume to: HR@TheWadsworth.org.