

TACOMA ART MUSEUM

JOB POSTING

Position: On Call Art Handler
Reports to: Head Preparator & Exhibition Designer
Department: Curatorial
Position Type: Part-Time, Intermittent, Hourly, Non-Exempt
Salary Range: \$20 – 25 / hour DOE
Benefits: Not Eligible

Position Summary

Tacoma Art Museum is seeking a pool of experienced, careful, and hard-working On Call Art Handlers for periodic employment assisting with exhibitions, installations, and gallery rotations.

Qualifications

REQUIREMENTS:

- Two years previous paid experience as an art handler or installer in a museum, gallery or art handling company or equivalent.
- Experience with installation, de-installation, packing and unpacking, shipping and storage of artworks in all media.
- Proficiency with hand and power tools, able to lift, handle and carry heavy, fragile objects (up to 50 lbs), and comfortable on ladders, scaffolds and/or scissor lifts.
- Experience with wall framing, sheathing, painting and familiarity with carpentry shop tool.
- The ideal candidate is a self-starter with an aptitude for quick learning, problem solving, clear communication, and, above all, teamwork.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Two years woodshop experience or equivalent.
- Art crating and mount making experience.
- Museum or gallery lighting experience.
- Experience working with high profile lenders and institutional couriers.
- Working knowledge of best museum installation / de-installation practices and standard museum protocols.

Travel, Working Conditions, and Physical Environment

The essential physical requirements of this position include:

- There is regular need to stand, stoop or walk for long periods of time.
- Frequently reaches with hands and arms and uses hands and fingers to handle objects and operate tools, machinery, computers, and/or controls.
- Ability to lift objects (up to 50 pounds) and perform other similar actions during the course of the workday.
- Continuously exchanges information through listening and talking with staff, volunteers and individuals in the community;
- Some work may be occasionally performed outside where employee is subject to adverse weather conditions.

To Apply

- Please email a succinct cover letter and resume to HR@TacomaArtMuseum.org.
- Include “Art Handler First Name Last Name” in subject line.
- No phone inquiries, please.

Tacoma Art Museum is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Tacoma Art Museum strongly encourages applicants from members of groups underrepresented in careers related to museums and the visual arts.

About Tacoma Art Museum

Tacoma Art Museum is a public-spirited institution that champions a dynamic and responsive approach to exhibitions. The museum’s passionate staff are driven by the mission of connecting people through art, empowering visitors to create meaning with artworks through innovative interpretation and programs. Named by *USA Today* as one of the “Top 10 Great Places to See Art in Smaller Cities,” the museum has developed a reputation for presenting art in a thought-provoking yet accessible manner with a strong commitment to Northwest art. Founded in 1935, TAM has strong roots in the community. Along with five other museums and neighboring University of Washington at Tacoma, TAM anchors Tacoma’s lively downtown core.

The 16,000 square foot, \$15.5 million Haub Family Galleries addition, which opened in November 2014, doubled TAM’s gallery space and further connects the museum with the heart of Tacoma along Pacific Avenue. The award-winning architect Tom Kundig of Seattle-based Olson Kundig designed the expansion. The new galleries house the Haub Family Collection of Western American Art, a collection of 295 works that has established TAM as the only major museum of Western American art of this caliber in the region. The collection enables the museum to fully explore the art history of the West and its influence on Northwestern art, while integrating the western and Northwest collections.

TAM recently announced a gift of 225 works of art bequeathed by Becky and Jack Benaroya, along with \$14 million for care of the collection, an endowed curatorial position, and a new wing to showcase the works. TAM anticipates that the 7,390 square foot addition, to be designed by Tom Kundig, will open in fall, 2018. The Benaroya collection includes approximately 150 works of exceptional studio art glass along with important paintings and sculptures by renowned regional artists.