BMA-Getty Paper Project Curatorial Fellow, Prints, Drawings & Photographs

The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) is delighted to announce a call for applications for a paid 2-year (24 months) early career curatorial fellowship supported by The Getty Foundation’s Paper Project.

Position Description
The Paper Project Curatorial Fellow will be a full-time member of the BMA’s Prints, Drawings & Photograph (PDP) Department from September 2022 through August 2024, participating in the daily activities and duties of the department and gaining professional mentorship and hands-on experience with the full spectrum of curatorial practice and responsibilities. The Fellow will be encouraged to use the BMA’s significant collection of historical (pre-1945) prints to explore socially relevant and/or interdisciplinary narratives.

This fellowship will provide invaluable professional development experience for an emerging curator to engage first-hand with the BMA’s exceptional collection of over 62,000 prints and drawings and to explore new ways to present the historical collection to the Museum’s many different publics. The area of the Fellow’s interest is open, but priority will be given to candidates with a demonstrated interest aligned with one of the following strengths in the BMA’s collection: Northern European prints of the 16th and 17th centuries, French 19th-century prints, or European modernist graphic works.

Key qualities in the successful candidate will be the willingness to think broadly across cultures and periods, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to making art broadly accessible to different audiences. The Museum is committed to diversifying the museum field, especially in the highly specialized and traditionally elite field of the study of works on paper, and prioritizes candidates from backgrounds underrepresented in the field.

Further, the Fellow will be provided the necessary support to pursue an independent capstone project that uses the PDP collection to develop alternative narratives in the study of Western graphic traditions, initiatives aligned with the BMA’s institutional commitment to engage with increasingly diverse audiences through exhibitions and programs that prioritize historical accuracy, artistic excellence, and equity. To encourage the Fellow to bring a new perspective to the curatorial practice for historical works on paper, the fellowship experience will be a combination of structured opportunities for professional growth and room for experimental thinking.
Position details

- Two-year, salaried full-time position (September 2022 through August 2024)
- Regularly scheduled onsite work is a mandatory aspect of the job, with occasional opportunities to work from home or at offsite locations
- Occasional work-related travel is expected

The Fellow will be expected to spend approximately 60% of their time engaged with departmental and institutional duties—including collection research and record maintenance, acquisition research and proposal, and assisting with Study Room visitors and classes—and approximately 40% of their time working on their capstone project and its accompanying elements.

The Fellow will also have a modest annual travel stipend that will allow travel to area collections for research and/or art fairs to participate in the process of considering potential acquisitions for the BMA’s PDP collection.

Requirements

- M.A. required/Ph.D. preferred in art history or relevant field; degree received in the last five years
- U.S. Citizenship or authorization to work in the United States
- Fluency with art and history specific to the applicant’s period of interest
- Familiarity with and/or interest in works on paper
- Command of a European language and the ability to conduct research in that language
- Effective written and oral communication skills, including public speaking
- Familiarity with, or open to learning how to use, Microsoft Office Suite; software for remote work (Zoom, One Drive); and project management software such as AirTable or Wrike
- Physical ability to lift solander boxes and framed works weighing up to 25 lbs each.

Experience working in a museum setting and/or with a collection database is preferred, but not required. The PDP department is highly collegial and depends upon teamwork and open communication to accomplish its goals; the successful candidate would be expected to value and contribute to such a work environment.

Benefits

We offer a competitive salary and a generous benefits package. For this fellowship position we offer medical, dental, vision, prescription, 403b retirement plan with match, long term disability, flexible spending account, museum and restaurant discounts, and reduced fee gym membership. We also offer accrued vacation, holidays, personal days, floating holidays, and sick days.
The BMA is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We are committed to building a culturally diverse staff and strongly encourage all qualified professionals to apply.

Application materials
- Cover letter, including a statement of interest
- Resume or CV
- Writing sample (max 1,000 words)

Applications should be sent to rsanchez@artbma.org by May 15, 2022. Review of applications will begin immediately.