

## Historian of African American or African Diasporic Art, Penn State University

Penn State, University Park, PA, USA, Aug 01, 2020

Application deadline: Mar 1, 2020

Elizabeth Mansfield, Getty Foundation

The Department of Art History at the Pennsylvania State University seeks a historian of African Diasporic or African American art, architecture, or visual culture for a tenure-line (tenure-track or tenured) position.

This open rank search is a joint appointment with the Department of African American Studies in the College of Liberal Arts with a tenure home in the Department of Art History in the College of Arts & Architecture. We are particularly interested in candidates conversant in diverse methodologies, but especially welcome comparatists and those working with digital technologies. Candidates should possess a publication record appropriate to their career stage, and an active research agenda is required. Both departments value dynamic teachers who are prepared to lead upper level undergraduate and graduate courses in their field, as well as teach introductory classes in African, Diasporic, and/or African American art and/or architecture. Penn State's Palmer Museum of Art has strong collections in African and African Diasporic art, with a particular strength in African American art. A new, state-of-the-art museum building will open in 2023, further enhancing Penn State's capacity for collections research, on-site teaching, and curatorial collaborations. The Department of African American Studies is now home to the Colored Conventions Project, a major digital humanities project with opportunities for art historical and visual culture research and outreach collaborations. This is a full-time, tenure-line position with an anticipated start date of August 2020. The normal teaching load is two courses each semester. Expectations include undergraduate advising, graduate mentoring, maintaining an active research agenda, and departmental and university service. A Ph.D. is required at the time of appointment.

Penn State is committed to and accountable for advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its forms. We embrace individual uniqueness, foster a culture of inclusive excellence that supports both broad and specific diversity initiatives, leverage the educational and institutional benefits of diversity, and engage all individuals to help them thrive. We value inclusive excellence as a core strength and an essential element of our public service mission. As a land grant university, Penn State is responsible for providing a wide array of programs in the professional and technical disciplines, as well as a balanced offering of undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts and sciences.

The University Park campus is located within State College, PA, which was recently ranked number 5 in a ranking of top college towns by the American Institute for Economic Research, and number 15 in a ranking of the Safest College Towns in America by Safewise. Located in a valley in the

Appalachian Mountains, in Centre County, Pennsylvania, employment at Penn State offers incredible opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the central Pennsylvania outdoors combined with all the culture, sports, and entertainment a large university community can bring, and is within drivable distance from New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Washington DC.

Applications received by March 1, 2020 will be assured full consideration. However, applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Inquiries may be directed to Search Committee Chair Robin Thomas at [ARTHAFAM@psu.edu](mailto:ARTHAFAM@psu.edu).

Reference:

JOB: Historian of African American or African Diasporic Art, Penn State University. In: ArtHist.net, Jan 23, 2020 (accessed Jun 22, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/22472>>.