Curator, Print Collection, Philadelphia Museum of Art

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LOUIS MARCHESANO

The Ted and Kathy Fernberger Curator of Prints

The Philadelphia Museum of Art seeks a curator with an exceptional record of exhibitions and publications to oversee the museum's distinguished collection of 120,000 European, North American, and Japanese prints. Reporting directly to the Senior Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs, you will join the curatorial team during a period of transformation within the department and the museum. This position requires a broad-based knowledge of prints and the print market. Candidates at the assistant, associate, and full curatorial levels will be considered.

Specifically, you will:

Work under the direction of the head of the Prints, Drawings, and Photographs department and in cooperation with other curators in the department, as well as with other museum staff, helps to achieve the mission of the institution and its strategic objectives.

Assess the collection of 120,000 prints and help outline and implement an acquisition strategy and display methodology in consultation with the department head, and in collaboration with the Park Family Assistant Curator of Prints and Drawings, and curatorial fellows.

Conduct or direct research on the collection or on related topics in accordance with a plan developed in consultation with the head of the department. Keeping in mind the museum's richly diverse audiences, utilize this research for the development of exhibitions and public programming, the enrichment of the museum's collections database and interpretive materials in the galleries, and for presentation in collections catalogues, scholarly articles, public lectures and symposia.

With the department Head, devise a plan to mentor fellows by delegating curatorial tasks, developing collaborative working assignments, and providing professional feedback, including supporting fellows in developing and implementing exhibitions.

Works closely with the museum's conservation, collections management, and design and installation staff to ensure that the works of art in your care are properly documented, conserved, stored, and effectively displayed in the museum's galleries for the enjoyment and education of the public.

Organize and/or coordinate special exhibitions, either individually or in collaboration with colleagues from the museum or other institutions. This work should be understood as encompass-

ing every aspect of the development and implementation of special exhibitions, from initial project planning and research to participation in budgeting and resource development, the production of the catalogue, the creation of the installation design and a marketing plan to promote the exhibition, and the development and presentation of interpretive programs that will accompany it.

Identify and recommend works of art in your area of responsibility to be acquired for the collection and provide supporting documentation to justify the acquisition. In accordance with institutional policies, periodically assesses the area of the collection in your purview and make recommendations for potential deaccessions.

Undertake a collection assessment and make recommendations about collecting strategies.

Consult with the museum's library staff on book and journal acquisitions in your area of responsibility.

In consultation with the department head, work closely with the department's acquisitions committee and supporters. Assist in all aspects of committee meeting preparations.

Review and provide recommendations on loan requests received by the museum.

Work collaboratively with the Education Division on the development and production of interpretive materials related to the collection and on the content and presentational strategies developed for public programs and distance learning programs.

Develop in consultation with the department Head a professional development plan that will enable you to keep up to date on scholarship and curatorial developments in the field and address any agreed-upon professional needs.

Work in close cooperation with the museum's senior staff and Development officers to identify and cultivate individuals who can support the development of the collection in your area of responsibility.

Your background and experience include:

A record of research and curatorial achievement, which includes the development of moderate and large-scale exhibitions and publications, the acquisition of works of art, and the ability to address diverse audiences.

PhD with requisite experience as assistant curator, associate curator, or curator.

You must possess a solid understanding of museum practices in terms of conservation, collections management, and loan requests.

Mentoring fellows and interns and cultivating supporters and collectors.
Ability to multitask, maintain effective lines of communication within the department and museum, and efficiently meet overlapping deadlines.

Excellent written and oral communication skills.

We offer a competitive benefits package for employees including:

- Medical, dental, and vision benefits
- Fully paid short-term disability insurance, long-term disability insurance, and life insurance
- Health savings or flexible spending account program
- Retirement savings program with museum match
- Paid vacation, personal days, sick days, and holidays

Please submit your application with resume and letter of interest here: https://philamuseum.applytojob.com/apply/PBsw0faB27/The-Kathy-And-Ted-Fernberger-Curator-Of-Prints

Reference:

JOB: Curator, Print Collection, Philadelphia Museum of Art. In: ArtHist.net, Mar 5, 2020 (accessed Nov 28, 2026), <https://arthist.net/archive/22796>.