



## **MACKENZIE ART GALLERY**

engaging people in transformative experiences of the world through art

### **JOB POSTING**

**Job Title:** Director of Programs (DoP)

**Reports to:** Executive Director and CEO

**Department:** Programs

**Status:** Full-Time, Out-of-Scope Position, Contract position (five-year term)

### **About the MacKenzie Art Gallery**

The MacKenzie Art Gallery plays an important role in the Canadian and International art ecosystem. Programming primarily contemporary art from the prairies, Canada and abroad, the MacKenzie addresses an encyclopedic range of visual art and has a proud and consistent history of being an ally in exhibiting and collecting the work of Indigenous artists, with leadership from Indigenous curators. The MacKenzie is at a crucial point in our history where we are seeking to critically examine our own histories, failings, and opportunities as we redefine our role as a cultural institution within our community. We are seeking a visionary leader who can bring a spirit of care, thoughtfulness, play, experimentation, and responsibility to our artistic vision, guiding a professional team to work collaboratively with each other, with artists, and our broader community.

Opening in 1953 on the University of Saskatchewan Regina Campus (now the University of Regina), in the first purpose-built art gallery building in western Canada, the MacKenzie enjoys a nationally unique partnership with the U of R. After separating in 1990, and moving to its current premises, MAG now maintains separate board governance, site and an expansive mandate and quarters in the T.C. (Tommy) Douglas Building. The MacKenzie features an outdoor sculpture garden with potential for growth through loans, acquisitions and commissions. The MAG is situated in Treaty Four on the traditional territory of the Cree, Saulteaux, Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota people, and the homeland of the Métis Nation. The MacKenzie is housed in a 115,000 sqft facility, maintained to Class A Museum standards, with a permanent collection that spans 5000 years of art with nearly 5000 works. The MacKenzie is located on the edge of the 2300-acre Wascana Centre, the largest urban park in Canada. Wascana Centre (1962) was designed by renowned modernist architect Minoru Yamasaki, designer of the original World Trade Center in New York, and is a living artifact of modernist design heritage.

### **Primary Purpose**

Reporting to the Executive Director & CEO, the position is responsible for leading a team in executing the strategy and related annual plan in all program areas, ensuring high standards of excellence.

### **About the Position**

The Director of Programs supports the Executive Director & CEO in leading the development, implementation and evaluation of the overall program of the MacKenzie Art Gallery in accordance with the Gallery's Mission, Vision and strategic and business plans. Responsibility encompasses the curatorial, education, and program operations teams, working towards implementing an interdependent and mutually enriching relationship between these areas in

order to create a cohesive, collaborative structure for all programs. Programs include exhibitions, public programs, learning and interpretive programs, publications, classes, artist residencies, commissions, collections and all other public-facing interactive, experiential and research activities.

As a member of the management team, this position works with all areas of the Gallery and critically contributes to long-term strategic planning for the organization, anticipating challenges and developing long-term opportunities and sustainability. In accordance with the Gallery's Mission, Vision and strategic and business plans, this position plays a leading role in guiding the organization's ongoing operations and evaluation, serving a leadership role in creating a positive work environment, enabling staff to contribute their best, fostering an appreciation for the arts and a culture of accountability, philanthropy and total development.

According to these areas of accountability it is expected that the position will allocate time roughly as follows: 50% program development and research; 25% human resources management and administration; 25% fund development.

This position supervises the following staff: Head Curator, Curator of Education, and Head of Program Operations.

### **Profile of the Candidate**

The candidate will actively contribute to the goal of re-imagining what a 21st century art museum can be, with an eye towards our social responsibility as a cultural institution. The ideal candidate will have a minimum five years experience in senior level leadership of arts organizations and demonstrated specialist knowledge and experience in a number of key areas:

#### **1. BIPOC Art**

The MacKenzie has a long history of meaningful engagement with Indigenous art and artists with approximately 90 exhibitions presented over the past forty years. The MacKenzie seeks a candidate for Director of Programs who will contribute to a sustained development of contemporary Indigenous art, promoting innovative scholarship, curatorial practice, and reciprocal relationships with community and partners, while helping to build the international reputation for Indigenous art and artists. The MacKenzie's representation of Black and POC art and artists is less robust and has become a priority area in recent years. We are seeking a candidate who can help us live up to our responsibilities of hospitality and representation of the full history of our cultures through meaningful engagement with Black and POC artists and communities that helps expand our—and our audiences—understanding and imagination of our world. The selected candidate—supported by gallery staff in an institution-wide collaborative effort—must be able to visualize and operationalize an ethical and equitable program plan and internal culture.

#### **2. Community Engagement**

The ideal candidate will articulate a compelling narrative that integrates curatorial excellence and interpretive, learning and engagement practices from conception to implementation, with a focus on visitor experience and building meaningful connections with diverse communities. The candidate will demonstrate innovative approaches to bridging curatorial practice with community engagement and be instrumental in growing diverse audiences for the museum.

#### **3. Research and Education**

The candidate will have demonstrated experience in curating, research and pedagogy, and be comfortable in addressing a range of educational and literacy modes and opportunities from youth to life-long-learners. This position will provide support to the post-secondary academic community as a recognized leader in the visual arts nationally and contribute to university-level initiatives and funding opportunities. A thorough knowledge of fine arts research, including demonstrated familiarity and success with practice-based research coordination, and

advanced education funding opportunities that will assist the Gallery in extending its scope and diversifying revenue and research-oriented outcomes. The candidate should have a track record of publication in the arts.

#### **4. Administration, Supervision and Development**

The candidate will have experience in supervising staff, and building, monitoring and reporting on budgets and grant applications. They are comfortable with principals of fund-development and philanthropy and have demonstrated competency in partnerships and donor relationships, based on trust, respect, accountability, and transparency.

**Education:** PhD or Master's degree in a related discipline or equivalent education and experience.

**Salary Information:** The starting salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

**Benefits:** This position includes a comprehensive benefits package.

**Term:** This position is intended to commence by fall 2021 for a five-year term.

**Position description:** a full job description is [available here](#).

The MacKenzie Art Gallery is committed to maintaining an inclusive culture and building a diverse workforce that includes diversity in gender identity/representation, First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, persons with disabilities and members of racialized communities who have traditionally been and are currently underrepresented in the Canadian workforce. We welcome applications from all qualified candidates.

**HOW TO APPLY:** This posting will remain open until the position is filled. Only those candidates to be interviewed will be contacted. The MacKenzie thanks all applicants for their interest.

Applications for this position can only be submitted via the MacKenzie's job application portal.

Any applications submitted via email or by mail will not be considered.

To visit the portal and apply, [please click here](#).

Inquiries regarding this position can be directed to Jackie Martin, Director of Finance and Operations, at (306) 584-4250 ext. 4275.

The successful candidate must submit a satisfactory Criminal Record Check prior to employment.