

Art Museum
University of Toronto
—
Justina M. Barnicke Gallery
University of Toronto Art Centre

7 Hart House Circle
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3H3
artmuseum.utoronto.ca

Art Museum

Job Posting: Casual, Contract Position,
TPZ Student Artist's Assistant

Deadline for applications (resume and cover letter):
Thursday, July 29, 2021

Submit to: Mihyun Maria Kim, Project Coordinator
maria.kim@utoronto.ca

Starting date: August 5, 2021

End date: August 30, 2021

Hours: 20-35 hours/week. \$20/hour. Weekdays/Evenings/
Weekends

Working conditions: Mostly outdoors, occasional remote
meetings

Number of positions: 4 - 6

The Project:

In preparation for the creation of an Indigenous garden at Hart House Circle at the University of Toronto, hoardings have been erected to protect the trees during construction. Curated by Mik Migwans (Assistant Professor and Curator of Contemporary Indigenous Art, Art Museum) and Maria Hupfield (Assistant Professor Indigenous Digital Arts and Performance), The Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) project involves artists who elaborate these hoardings into a celebration of the garden and trees, the buried waterway (Taddle Creek) that remains there under the soil, and the community that is centered here.



Beginning in August, the artists will be working with the Art Museum team and the Artist's Assistants to apply the designs to the hoardings. Projects may involve traditional street art techniques, such as stenciling and wheat pasting, application of spray or acrylic paints, vinyl, or other 2-D or 3-D materials. The hoardings will remain in place for one year and will weather accordingly. Following takedown, artists will be invited to reclaim and repurpose the pieces, or to allow the boards to be donated to other communities on or off campus.

Position Summary:

The Artist's Assistant(s) will be working under the general direction of the Project Coordinator and the Curatorial team to implement art works. The position will offer the assistants the unique opportunity to gain practical experience working on a major outdoor project, to engage with multiple artistic processes, and receive mentorship from professional artists.

The position includes and is not limited to the following tasks:

- Be ready to learn and adapt to various creative processes of multiple artists involved.
- Create and support an inclusive, positive, team environment.
- Support the artists throughout all phases of executing their artwork onto and around wooden hoardings.
- Assist the project coordinator, curators, and artists with the successful implementation of artwork.

- Support the monitoring and record keeping of incoming and outgoing supplies and materials for the specific project.
- Assist with daily duties within the onsite space, following COVID-19 related protocol and sign-in/out processes.
- Clean and organize the working area, break room, and shared spaces.
- Assist in the setup and takedown of equipment and materials for project implementation, keeping track of all resources and tools during usage and storage.
- This position requires occasional working from home using Zoom and other virtual platforms.
- Other duties as assigned.

Experience:

- (Under)graduate visual arts students or emerging artist preferred.
- A minimum of two (2) years of working with various visual production techniques, such as drawing, painting, stencilling, sculpting, fabricating and/or design methods.
- Some exposure to street arts, mural arts, and/or traditional crafts considered an asset.
- Experience working with an intermediate/established artist considered an asset.

Skills:

- Working to direction and completing projects on time.

- Ability to work with individual and/or group tasks within a team environment
- Computer skills (Word, Excel, Outlook)
- Written and oral communication skills
- Organizational skills, ability to multitask, initiative and respect for the participants of the project at all levels
- Creative problem-solving skills
- Ability to work with or learn new techniques, utilizing various hand tools or power tools.
- Time management with ability to prioritize workload and meet timeline expectations.
- Knowledge of Indigenous visual arts and history considered an asset.
- Literacy in Indigenous cultures, urban Indigenous issues, and understanding of the unique dynamics that exist within the project space.
- Ability to comply by workplace health and safety practices and gain understanding of an employee's responsibility under current legislation.
- Ability to work within a team, maintain open communication and respectful working relationships, demonstrating strong interpersonal skills.

The Art Museum at the University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+ persons.

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