

CURATOR – DIGITAL & MEDIA ART

Foundation Summary

The Carl & Marilyn Thoma Foundation recognizes the power of the arts to challenge and shift perceptions, spark creativity, and connect people across cultures. We lend and exhibit artworks from our collection and provide grants to support innovative individuals and projects in our collection areas (Digital & Media Art, Post-War Painting & Sculpture, Art of the Spanish Americas, and Japanese Bamboo).

Collection Summary

The Foundation's Digital and Media Art collection numbers more than 400 works by more than 138 artists, representing a global history of the medium from 1959 to the present. We exclusively acquire artworks that can be exhibited in public spaces. We define Digital & Media Art as the artistic intervention into contemporary technologies. We prize artists whose clever use of digital tools enables greater creative expression and cultural insight. The collection encompasses the technical richness of software art, video and moving image, early computer drawing, electronic and programmable light sculpture and interactive art.

Position Description

The Thoma Foundation is accepting applications for full-time Curator of Digital and Media Art Collection (Digital Curator.) This unique role offers the opportunity to lead all aspects of our Digital & Media Art collection including research, documentation, and promotion of the collection, oversee conservation, plan exhibitions, and work collaboratively with other departments within the Foundation to coordinate loans and advise on grants related to the collection.

The position responsibilities will be broken into two parts: 50% of your time will be devoted to research, documentation, and analysis of the existing collection. The remaining 50% will involve proactive outreach with leading scholars and museums to expand awareness of the Thoma's collection, to introduce loan opportunities for future exhibitions, and to network with dealers and auction houses to pursue new acquisition opportunities.

As Digital Curator, you will tap into your excellent interpersonal skills and a dynamic personality to cultivate relationships that lead to new partnerships with art organizations and museums around the world. Whether you are an emerging scholar or established curator, this means that you will be representing the Thoma Foundation throughout the world to interface and create new relationships with the top contacts and institutions domestically and internationally working in this field. As a result, you will become a widely visible and active member of the national and international art community.

Responsibilities

- Oversee the research and documentation of Digital and Media collection particularly as it relates to research and writing about new acquisitions.
- Conduct pre-acquisition research, including provenance, appraisals, and condition evaluations and, in collaboration with the adjunct curator, recommend works for acquisition.
- Oversee and document conservation work; act as the primary contact for conservators.
- Develop a communications plan to increase awareness and to reach new audiences.
- Cultivate relationships with peer institutions and engage external leaders and partners to develop loan relationships and collection-centered exhibitions.

- Travel to meet with curators, dealers, and auction houses, domestically and internationally.
- Organize internal and traveling exhibitions from the collection.
- Plan, oversee, and contribute to updated scholarly publication of the collection. The plan is for the collection to be on-line (Argus). It is hoped that accessibility through Argus will invite scholarly comments, additions, corrections, subject to internal review.

Qualifications

- Master of Arts degree required. Ph.D. preferred.
- Superior research, written, and verbal communication skills.
- Self-directed and self-motivated with the ability to execute on plans independent of direction.
- Strong interpersonal skills, a dynamic personality, and the ability to foster relationships that lead to new partnerships with art organizations and museums.
- Creative and confident to propose new ideas.
- Is interested in community engagement and inclusion and with a strong sense of ethical practice and empathy.
- Must be collaborative, congenial, and kind. This position is required to attend all internal staff meetings. We are a small team and need someone who can work collaboratively across all areas of the Foundation.

Candidates with academic and professional experience in a museum, arts foundation, or other organization focused on the visual arts are encouraged to apply.

Location and Hours

You will be provided an office our Dallas headquarters at 1925 Cedar Springs Road. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm with the flexibility to work after hours as events and traveling require.

Compensation

Full health benefit offered and 403(b) contribution.

To Apply

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

To apply, please send your cover letter, resume or C.V., and writing sample of no more than 10 pages to tfjobs@thomafoundation.org