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Position title	Curator, First Nations Art
National Gallery level	NGA Level 6
Position number	4402
Employment type	Ongoing – Full-time
Department	First Nations Art
Portfolio	Artistic Programs
Immediate supervisor	Senior Curator, First Nations Art
Direct reports	Nil
Position location	National Gallery, Parkes, Kamberri/Canberra
Requirements	Australian Citizenship Police Check Relevant qualifications in art history or museum/archival studies and some experience in an art gallery/museum environment is essential This vacancy is only open to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

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## **ABOUT THE GALLERY – ABOUT OUR TEAM**

The National Gallery is one of Australia’s leading visual arts institutions. The National Gallery is based in Canberra and is a vital part of the Australian cultural landscape. Our Purpose is to collect, preserve, promote and share the national collection of art. The Vision of the National Gallery is to be the international reference point for art in Australia, inspiring all people to explore, experience and learn. Our Values include boldness, integrity, respect, and excellence.

## **WORKING AT THE GALLERY**

When you work at the National Gallery you will be exposed to some of the world’s leading Australian and international art and artists. We are located in the National triangle on the waterfront and your lunchtimes can be spent in our beautiful sculpture garden or around Lake Burley Griffin.

We support flexible working practices, including working from home, and you will have access to low-cost, onsite car parking.

The National Gallery is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of our people and we expect our people to share this commitment and work safely at all times.

We value the contribution that a diverse workforce brings and encourage people from a diverse background to apply. This might include identifying as First Nations peoples, people with a disability, culturally and linguistically diverse people and LGBTQIA+ people.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE ROLE**

The National Gallery is seeking a First Nations curator to join an enthusiastic team who work within a vibrant and rewarding environment, stewarding and developing the National Gallery's relationship with art and artists and working with the largest collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in the world.

Reporting to the Senior Curator, First Nations Art, this role provides support with the planning and co-ordination of activities related to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art collections, programs and departmental projects. This includes assisting with research, development and management of allocated parts of the collection and exhibition projects.

The Artistic Programs Portfolio is responsible for the care, loan and presentation of the national collection along with the initiation, development and delivery of the exhibition, touring, publishing and commissioning program at the National Gallery. The First Nations Art Department is responsible for researching and delivering loan exhibitions, commissioning projects for the program, as well as researching, building, interpreting, and publishing on the National Gallery's collection and preparing collection displays.

An order of merit may be established from this selection process and may be used to fill future identical vacancies over the next 12 months.

If you do not wish to be added to an order of merit, please notify us in your application.

This position is an ongoing, full-time role with the First Nations Curatorial team, within the Artistic Programs Portfolio.

This role constitutes an affirmative measure under section 8(1) of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 and is only available to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

## **OUR IDEAL CANDIDATE – SELECTION CRITERIA**

Our ideal candidate is a curator or specialist with a demonstrated broad knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art of Australia, supported by a relevant degree. Your curatorial flair will support the National Gallery to fulfil its ambition of rethinking the histories of art from multiple, diverse, vantage points.

You will have proven administrative skills with the ability to work on several projects simultaneously, organising and prioritising to meet specified deadlines with a minimum of supervision. Demonstrated skills in the maintenance of accurate records in manual and computer-based formats and an awareness of museum cataloguing methods and collection management software are desirable.

You will possess effective skills in written and oral communication with experience in public speaking, and can demonstrate expertise in undertaking research and publishing material on relevant aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.

You will have excellent relationship management skills with an established network of contacts, and you will be an accomplished communicator who engages successfully with a wide range of stakeholders and partners.

You will have proven experience in promoting initiatives in a cross-cultural environment and have an understanding of, and commitment to, issues of equality, diversity and inclusion as they affect the work of a major museum.

## THE KEY DUTIES OF THE POSITION - WHAT WILL YOU DO?

In accordance with the APS 6 Work Level standards, you will:

- Assist with the organisation of exhibitions and displays within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art exhibition programs. Assist with the identification, research, cataloguing and collection management aspects of the collection.
- Assist with the movement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art for the purposes of exhibition, conservation, photography and storage. Research, prepare texts and labels, and assist with the co-ordination of publishing of aspects of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art collection.
- Liaise with staff across the Gallery in pursuit of departmental goals.
- Represent the Gallery and present lectures and other public programs related to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art collection.

## WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

To be successful in this role you will need to demonstrate, or have the ability to develop the following:

- Develop and support complex relationships with internal and external stakeholders. Manage relationships with stakeholders to achieve First Nations Art and National Gallery goals. Anticipate and respond to stakeholder needs and expectations.
- Perform research and analysis to make decisions that involve complex or escalated issues, longer-term planning and liaison with other departments on policy, project or operational issues.
- Make decisions using good judgement, expertise and knowledge. Be governed by the application of regulations, best practice principles or the National Gallery's processes and procedures.
- Work under limited direction with opportunity for autonomy and accountability in interpreting policy and the application of practices and procedures.
- Set priorities and ensure quality of outputs for the First Nations Art team.
- Have an in-depth understanding of and compliance with relevant legislation and policy frameworks.
- Represent the National Gallery by promoting its interests at community and cross-agency levels.

## HOW TO APPLY

You should provide a tailored CV (**maximum of three pages**) along with a statement of no more than **two pages** that outlines your skills, capabilities and experience, against the 'Our ideal candidate' information above.

In your statement response you should keep in mind the capabilities and behaviours required to be successful for this role, as identified in the 'Who are we looking for?' section.

Try not to duplicate information that can be found in your CV but do highlight any specific examples or achievements that demonstrate your ability to perform the role.

As part of your application process, we ask that you also complete the [personal particulars form](#) as well.

**To apply for this role please forward your application to [recruitment@nga.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@nga.gov.au).**

## ELIGIBILITY:

**Citizenship** - To be eligible for employment with the Gallery, you must be an Australian citizen.

**Police Check** - To be eligible for this role you must complete a police check.

**Affirmative Measures** - This role constitutes an affirmative measure under section 8(1) of the Racial Discrimination ACT 1975 and is only available to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

**Qualifications, Certifications and Registrations** - Role specific mandatory qualifications certification and/or registrations include:

- Hold a Tertiary qualifications in Visual Art, Education and/or Museum Studies or have relevant experience.

### **Work, Health & Safety Obligations**

The National Gallery is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of our people and we expect our people to share this commitment and work safely at all times.

This role is required to ensure that they meet duty of care obligations as required under WHS legislation. This is achieved by:

- being accountable and taking ownership of health and safety matters within their control or ability to promote a culture of health and safety within the National Gallery
- working with colleagues to enhance health and safety and ensure that it becomes a part of everyday National Gallery business.
- completing health and safety reporting in an accurate and timely manner.

### **CONTACT**

Further information about the position may be obtained by contacting Tina Baum, Senior Curator, First Nations Art on +61 2 6240 6478 or [tina.baum@nga.gov.au](mailto:tina.baum@nga.gov.au).