



Position title	Curator, Pacific Arts
National Gallery level	NGA Level 6
Position number	4406
Employment type	Non-ongoing (6 month backfill position), Full time
Department	International Art
Portfolio	Artistic Programs
Immediate supervisor	Senior Curator, Asian and Pacific Art
Direct reports	N/A
Position location	National Gallery, Parkes, Kamberri/Canberra
Requirements	Australian Citizenship Police Check

ABOUT THE GALLERY – ABOUT OUR TEAM

The National Gallery is one of Australia’s leading visual arts institutions. The 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 Mission is to lead a progressive national cultural agenda by championing art and its value in our lives. 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 scholar with expertise in Pacific Arts 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.

Reporting to the Senior Curator, Asian and Pacific Art, this role provides support with the planning and co-ordination of activities related to the Pacific Arts collection, programs and departmental projects. This includes assisting with the 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 International 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.

The Pacific Arts collection at the NGA was established in 1968 to present the arts of Australia's closest neighbours in the Pacific. The group of over 2000 works from the region comprises traditional and contemporary Pacific Arts, including stone, wood and fibre sculptures, masks, textiles, and the largest collection of contemporary prints from Papua New Guinea in Australia.

The position is a non-ongoing full-time role for a period of 5 months.

SKILLS AND CAPABILITY - OUR IDEAL CANDIDATE

Our ideal candidate will have a demonstrated broad knowledge and understanding of the visual cultures of Pacific Islander societies with a degree in art history or a relevant discipline. Ideally the candidate will possess skills in and knowledge of curatorial museum practices and procedures, including the display of works of art and the organisation of exhibitions.

Proven administrative skills with the ability to work on several projects simultaneously, organising and prioritising to meet specified deadlines with a minimum of supervision are essential. Evidence of effective skills in written and oral communication with experience in public speaking, understanding of cultural protocols and demonstrated expertise in undertaking research and publishing material on relevant aspects of Pacific Arts are required.

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 as are effective interpersonal skills with the ability to work effectively as a member in a team and establish good working relationships with multi-disciplined staff teams and Gallery clients. An ability to promote and apply the principles of workplace diversity and participative management practices is also desirable.

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

In accordance with the APS 6 Work Level standards, and working to the Senior Curator, Asian and Pacific Art, you will:

- Assist with the organisation of exhibitions and displays within the Asian and Pacific Art exhibition program. Assist with the identification, research, cataloguing and collection management aspects of the collection.
- Oversee the movement of works of Pacific Arts 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 Pacific Arts 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 Pacific Arts 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,

- A demonstrated broad knowledge and understanding of visual cultures of Pacific Islander societies with a degree in art history or a relevant discipline.
- Demonstrated skills and knowledge in curatorial museum practices and procedures, including the display of works of art and the organisation of exhibitions.
- Proven administrative skills with the ability to work on several projects simultaneously, organising and prioritising to meet specified deadlines with a minimum of supervision.
- Evidence of effective skills in written and oral communication with experience in public speaking, understanding of cultural protocols and demonstrated expertise in undertaking research and publishing material on relevant aspects of Pacific Arts.
- 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.
- Demonstrated effective interpersonal skills with the ability to work effectively as a member in a team and in establishing good working relationships with multi-disciplined staff teams and gallery clients.
- An ability to promote and apply the principles of workplace diversity and participative management practices.

HOW TO APPLY

You should provide a tailored CV (**maximum of two 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.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for this role you **must**:

- be an Australian citizen
- satisfy a police check
- hold a degree in art history or a relevant discipline

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 Carol Cains on +61 2 6240 6411 or carol.cains@nga.gov.au.