



## **Senior Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art (Affirmative Measures)**

**NGA Level Executive Level 1**

**Position No. 4513**

**\$ 101, 121 - \$ 115, 385 per annum**

**Ongoing**

### ***The position***

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

The National Gallery holds Australia's most important and internationally significant national art collection of over 155,000 works of art, including the world's most comprehensive and eminent collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.

This is a full-time, ongoing employment opportunity available within the Artistic Programs.

### ***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 role description and our ideal candidate information above.

You do not need to address individual selection criteria, however, in your response you should keep in mind the capabilities and behaviours required to be successful for this role, as identified in the 'Who we are looking for?' section.

In your statement, 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.

### ***Contact***

Further information about the position may be obtained by contacting Jenifer Barrett on extension 6240 6417 or [jennifer.barrett@nga.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.barrett@nga.gov.au). The Recruitment Officer may also be contacted on (02) 6240 6495.

### ***Closing date***

Applications close at **midnight on Monday, 24 January 2022** and should be emailed to [recruitment@nga.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@nga.gov.au).



<b>Position Title:</b>	Senior Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art (Affirmative measure – Indigenous)
<b>Position Number:</b>	4513
<b>NGA Level:</b>	Executive Level 1
<b>Employment Status:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Department</b>	Australian Art
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Artistic Programs
<b>Immediate Supervisor:</b>	Henry Dalrymple Head Curator, Australian Art
<b>Direct Reports:</b>	Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Wesfarmers Assistant Curator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art
<b>Position Location:</b>	National Gallery of Australia - Parkes
<b>Requirements:</b>	Australian Citizenship Police Check Tertiary qualifications in Visual Art, Education and/or Museum Studies or relevant experience is essential Six-month probation period

### **About the National Gallery**

The National Gallery of Australia (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 inspire creativity, inclusivity, engagement and learning through artists and art. Our Mission is to lead a progressive national cultural agenda by championing art and its value in our lives. Our Values include excellence, creativity, courage, respect and accountability.

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



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### **Working at the National 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 parliamentary triangle on the waterfront and your lunchtimes can be spent in our beautiful sculpture garden or walking or cycling 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 applications are encouraged from First Nations people, people with a disability, culturally and linguistically diverse people and LGBTQI people.

### **Overview of the role**

Reporting to the Henry Dalrymple Head Curator, Australian Art this position is responsible for leading the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art team ensuring the continuing development, display, research, interpretation, and promotion of the world's most significant collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in such a way that it strengthens and encourages new ways of understanding and connecting with art and artists. This position works with the Indigenous Engagement team through the Assistant Director, Indigenous Engagement to ensure priority initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture are embedded across the National Gallery.

This position undertakes research and writes publications that enhance the reputation of the National Gallery and its collection and contributes to the understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture. The position is responsible for developing and presenting exhibitions and projects that forge new perspectives and elevate new research to position the National Gallery as a place of scholarship and curatorial excellence. The Senior Curator also works collaboratively with peers and colleagues through national and international networks to foster relationships with artists and grow the value of the collection ensuring the greatest possible reach and impact.

This vacancy is identified as an affirmative measure and is only available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The filling of this vacancy is intended to constitute an affirmative measure under section 8(1) of the [Racial Discrimination Act 1975](#).

### **Our ideal candidate**

Our ideal candidate is an experienced curator or specialist with expert knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, 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 with a passion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art. You will also have the ability to lead the development of the National Gallery's collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art through acquisitions, gifts and bequests.

You have an impressive track record of publication and research with a knowledge and understanding of the issues surrounding collecting art. You have extensive experience and understanding of the processes of researching, developing and curating exhibitions and displays.

You are a resilient experienced leader who can operate in a creative, dynamic fast-paced environment. You will exemplify the National Gallery's values and engender a culture of achievement, collaboration and agility.

You have excellent relationship management skills with an established network of contacts. You will be an outstanding communicator who engages successfully with a wide range of stakeholders and partners. Your communication skills are also demonstrated by your experience in writing authoritative texts for a specialist readership and accessible texts for the general public.

You will have proven experience in driving 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.

### **What you will do**

In accordance with APS Executive Level 1 work level standards, you will:

1. Serve as the National Gallery's expert adviser on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and represent the National Gallery and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art team both nationally and internationally, including managing internal and external relationships with community, specialist networks, government, and other stakeholders, working to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.
2. With the Assistant Director, Artistic Programs, Assistant Director, Indigenous Engagement and *Henry Dalrymple* Head Curator, Australian art play a leading strategic role in developing the National Gallery's exhibition, loans, publishing, acquisition and deaccessioning programs.
3. Ensure that First Nations voices, principles and perspectives are embedded throughout the National Gallery's curatorial work through facilitating and supporting a range of First Nations-led programs and initiatives, including community and artist consultation.
4. Curate imaginative and distinctive exhibitions and displays for a diverse audience, including working closely with artists or other stakeholders on the development and execution of specific exhibitions, publications and commissions.
5. Lead the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art curatorial team in proactively identifying and developing acquisition opportunities that expand the vision for the national collection.
6. Manage the professional development and individual performance of a specialised curatorial team and provide regular feedback to team members. Develop and model a culture of continuous improvement, including building commitment to shared goals.



## Who we are looking for

This role requires an outcomes driven experienced curator with the demonstrated ability, or potential to develop, in the following:

1. **Effective stakeholder engagement skills** to work collaboratively with a diverse range of stakeholders, including artists, curatorial colleagues, galleries, researchers and the public.
2. The ability to **communicate and lead with influence**, including listening actively and clearly articulating your message in oral and written forms, so as to provide a high quality client service experience.
3. Experience in managing your and your team's workload to **achieve results**, often working with tight timeframes and competing priorities.
4. The ability to **act with integrity**, showing judgement and professionalism.
5. Versatility, flexibility and creativity in **aligning your work with the strategic priorities** of the National Gallery.

## 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 overview of the role and our ideal candidate information above.

You do not need to address individual selection criteria, however, in your response you should keep in mind the capabilities and behaviours required to be successful for this role, as identified in the 'What we are looking' section.

In your statement, 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.

## Qualifications, Certifications and Registrations

- Tertiary qualifications in Visual Art, Education and/or Museum Studies or relevant experience is essential.

## Contact

Further information about the position may be obtained by contacting Jenifer Barrett on extension 6240 6417 or [jennifer.barrett@nga.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.barrett@nga.gov.au). The Recruitment Officer may also be contacted on (02) 6240 6495.

**Note:** In line with National Gallery recruitment practices, you must hold Australian Citizenship and satisfy a police check. The requirement to hold Australian Citizenship may be waived under exceptional circumstances.