



## **Conservation Technician, Objects**

**NGA Level 4**

**Position Number 5045**

**\$65,476-\$71,174 per annum**

**Ongoing – Part-time**

### **THE POSITION**

The Conservation Technician is based in the Conservation Department at the National Gallery of Australia. The Department employs conservators specialising in paper, paintings, objects, textiles, time-based media and preventive conservation. This position sits within the Object Conservation section and assists with the conservation of works of art. The Conservation Technician has responsibility for the day-to-day maintenance of works of art in the sculpture garden and assists Object Conservators in more major treatment of the outdoor sculptures. The Technician also works on tasks within the conservation lab such as specialist mounting techniques for object-based works of art, the maintenance of mechanical works of art and other tasks to assist the Senior Object Conservator.

This role involves well developed practical skills, an understanding of the materials that comprise object-based works of art, particularly outdoor sculpture, and a high level of physical fitness. The Technician must be able to procure and manage equipment, manage small projects and supervise and work with contractors and external expertise from different sectors within tight and varying deadlines.

This position reports to the Senior Objects Conservator and is responsible for assisting the Objects team meet their care of the collection role. This position of Conservation Technician, Objects is an ongoing, part time role working 4 days a week with the Conservation team.

### **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' and 'Who we are looking for' 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.

Further, 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.

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

### **CONTACT**

Further information about the position may be obtained by contacting Sarah McHugh on +61 6240 6418 or [sarah.mchugh@nga.gov.au](mailto:sarah.mchugh@nga.gov.au) The Recruitment Officer may also be contacted on +61 6240 6495.

### **CLOSING DATE**

Applications **close at midnight on Midnight Tuesday, 17 May 2022** and should be emailed to [recruitment@nga.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@nga.gov.au).



---

Position title	Conservation Technician, Object
Position number	5045
National Gallery level	NGA 4
Department	Conservation
Portfolio	Artistic Programs
Employment type	Ongoing – Part-time
Immediate supervisor	Senior Conservator
Direct reports	N/A
Position location	National Gallery, Parkes, Kamberri/Canberra
Requirements	Australian Citizenship Police Check Accurate colour vision Ability to lift, climb a ladder and use tools and equipment Work outside regular work hours and undertake disaster recovery

---

## **ABOUT THE GALLERY**

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 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.

This role involves well developed practical skills, an understanding of the materials that comprise object-based works of art, particularly outdoor sculpture, and a high level of physical fitness. The Technician must be able to procure and manage equipment, manage small projects and supervise and work with contractors and external expertise from different sectors within tight and varying deadlines.

This position reports to the Senior Objects Conservator and is responsible for assisting the Objects team meet their care of the collection role. This position of Objects Conservation Technician is an ongoing, part time role working 4 days a week with the Conservation team.

## **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 parliamentary 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, 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 encouraged 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 Conservation Technician is based in the Conservation Department at the National Gallery of Australia. The Department employs conservators specialising in paper, paintings, objects, textiles, time-based media and preventive conservation. This position sits within the Object Conservation section and assists with the conservation of works of art. The Conservation Technician has responsibility for the day-to-day maintenance of works of art in the sculpture garden and assists Object Conservators in more major treatment of the outdoor sculptures. The Technician also works on tasks within the conservation lab such as specialist mounting techniques for object-based works of art, the maintenance of mechanical works of art and other tasks to assist the Senior Object Conservator.

This role involves well developed practical skills, an understanding of the materials that comprise object-based works of art, particularly outdoor sculpture, and a high level of physical fitness. The Technician must be able to procure and manage equipment, manage small projects and supervise and work with contractors and external expertise from different sectors within tight and varying deadlines.

This position reports to the Senior Objects Conservator and is responsible for assisting the Objects team meet their care of the collection role. This position of Conservation Technician, Objects is an ongoing, part time role working 4 days a week with the Conservation team.

## **OUR IDEAL CANDIDATE**

Our ideal candidate will have demonstrated experience and ability to undertake a wide range of manual tasks related to the preservation of objects and sculptures. You should be able to demonstrate your practical skills that are applicable to undertaking simple conservation tasks and the manufacture of display and storage forms for a variety of works of art.

An understanding of materials and techniques used in the production of works of art with an emphasis on metal objects. A demonstrated understanding and appreciation of the visual arts will be an advantage, as well as knowledge of gallery practices and basic conservation principles is highly desirable.

You should have well-developed organisational skills, with a proven ability to organise and carry out practical projects under limited supervision, while managing competing priorities.

You will be flexible when working within a fast paced and changing work environment. Experience in database entry and management of a Collection Management System (such as KeEMU) would be an advantage.

You should be able to demonstrate your ability to build good working relationships and work collaboratively with conservators, curators, technical staff, and to supervise contractors using well developed interpersonal skills.

One of the requirements for this role is to have good colour vision, manual dexterity, and physical health commensurate with the duties of the position (Ability to lift, climb ladders, work at heights, use tools and equipment).

## **WHAT WILL YOU DO**

In accordance with the APS 4 work level standards, you will have the following key responsibilities:

1. Carry out day to day maintenance of the sculpture collection in the Sculpture Garden and assist with other projects related to their care
2. Assist with the conservation and maintenance of all aspects of the National Gallery collection, including manufacturing of display supports and assisting with maintenance of mechanical works of art
3. Liaise with staff and external stakeholders in matters relating to the Sculpture Garden, advising the Senior Objects Conservator on the conservation needs of these objects
4. Maintain documentation on all work undertaken
5. Assist with the supervision of staff, volunteers and students as required
6. Assist with the implementation of the Integrated Pest Management Plan and Quarantine procedures
7. Provide broad conservation support in other sections as required to help the department meet its goals to care for the collection during storage and display

## WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR

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

You will:

1. **Takes personal responsibility** for accurate completion of work and seeks guidance when required and show initiative and drive to see that goals are achieved.
2. **Think strategically** to understanding the work environment and assist with the development of plans, strategies and team goals and identify problems that may impact on the work goals.
3. **Listens to** and considers different ideas and discusses issues credibly and thoughtfully. Identify other people's expectations and concerns.
4. Have the ability to **show judgement, intelligence and common sense** when researching and analysing information and draw accurate conclusions based on evidence; analyses and interpretation of information to inform decision makers.
5. Be able to **identify and uses resources wisely** by reviewing task performance and communicate this outcome to managers.

## 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.

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.

Further, 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.

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

## Qualifications, Certifications and Registrations

- Australian Citizenship
- Police check
- Accurate colour vision is essential
- Ability to lift, climb a ladder and use tools and equipment is essential
- An ability to work outside regular work hours and undertake disaster recovery is essential

**Work, Health & Safety Obligations**

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

**Contact**

Further information about the position may be obtained by contacting Sarah McHugh on +61 6240 6418 or [sarah.mchugh@nga.gov.au](mailto:sarah.mchugh@nga.gov.au). The Recruitment Officer may also be contacted on +61 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.