

# MFA **H** *The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*

## **Position Available**

Title:	Post-Graduate Interpretive Fellow
Reports To:	W. T. and Louise J. Moran Chair of the Department of Learning and Interpretation,
Pay Type:	Full-Time, Regular, Exempt, 35 hrs/week
Salary:	Commensurate with Experience and Education
Benefits:	Group Medical and Dental Insurance, Life and Long Term Disability Insurance, Retirement Plan, Flexible Spending Plans, Paid Time Off, Reserve Time Off, Holiday Pay, Museum Membership and Discounts
Work Schedule:	Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm
Work Location:	Law Building, a non-smoking facility

### **Responsibilities:**

This is an exciting time at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. The MFAH has embarked on a dynamic project with Steven Holl Architects to unify its campus and create essential new spaces for the public to engage with world-class art. The MFAH Post-Graduate Interpretive Fellow will have the opportunity to assist in preparations leading to the opening of the new campus, working collaboratively with staff in Learning and Interpretation, Curatorial, and Conservation on projects related to the interpretation of the Museum's permanent collections and special exhibitions. The Fellow will work closely with the Museum's Gallery Interpretation Specialist to enhance visitors' experiences of learning and enjoyment with works of art on view. S/he will work collaboratively to assist in the creation of a broad range of interpretive materials for intergenerational audiences, including texts, digital tools (audio and video), hands-on activities, and in-gallery opportunities for dialog. The Fellow will also have the opportunity to become involved with the Museum's commitment to diversity and inclusion through work with modes of interpretation for guests who are blind or have low vision, as well as those with memory loss. The fellowship is for a one-year appointment.

#### **1) Interpretation of special exhibitions through digital and analog tools**

- Collaborate with the Museum's curators and learning and interpretation staff to interpret historical and artistic themes for visitors in the Museum's major international exhibitions, as well as smaller permanent collection rotations
- Assist in the creation of content for audio, text and video segments for use in audio guides and digital interactives
- Assist in the creation of gallery guides, artists' toolbox interactive displays, and opportunities for artist demonstrations of relevant processes and techniques

#### **2) Interpretation strategy for permanent collection**

- Learn from collaborations between the curatorial and learning and interpretation departments in establishing an interpretive strategy for the Museum's permanent collection objects on view

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- Assist in developing interpretive materials (text and digital) for the permanent collection galleries of European art
- Assist in crafting related interpretive content for the Museum's partnership with the Google Art Project

### **3) Interpretation of modern and contemporary art**

- Assist with initial efforts to research and interpret the Museum's substantial global collections of modern and contemporary art, to be installed in the new Nancy and Rich Kinder Building, representing a unique opportunity to work on a major initiative with the Museum's exemplary curatorial team for modern and contemporary art.
- Assist with Institute for Museum and Library Services grant to raise awareness about modern contemporary art in Houston through a mobile story booth and social media campaign.

### **4) Docent engagement in connection with access programs**

- Work with learning and interpretation staff and with docents on reinforcing current practices and developing new techniques for engaging guests who participate in the Museum's Access Tours: *Art Beyond Sight* (for those who are blind or have low vision), and *Looking Together* (for those with memory loss and their caregivers)
- Assist with docent engagement sessions on how to engage these visitors using storytelling, conversational, and other techniques

#### **Skills, Knowledge and Abilities:**

- Broad knowledge of art history and excellent art-historical research skills
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Willingness to engage in a broad introduction to the interpretation process at a museum, rather than a focused research experience
- Basic fluency in the application of digital resources for learning and research a plus
- Familiarity with some aspect of museum work or learning theory as it relates to museum audiences desired

#### **Education and Experience:**

- B.A. degree in art history, studio art, or museum studies
- Ideally pursuing graduate study in these or related fields, or recently completed M.A. or Ph.D. degree in one of these fields
- Demonstrated interest in developing a career in museum work, either as a museum educator or curator

#### **How to Apply:**

Send resume to Human Resources, Job-18-023EDU, P.O. Box 6826, Houston TX 77265-6826; Fax 713-639-7508 or email: [jobs@mfah.org](mailto:jobs@mfah.org).