

**Career Opportunity  
This is not a Federal Position**

We are currently accepting applications to fill the following vacancy:

Assistant Curator for Korean Art and Culture  
**Announcement Number: SITRUST-23-NMAA0501**  
**Number of Vacancies: 1**

<b>OPEN DATE:</b>	<b>5/8/2023</b>
<b>CLOSING DATE:</b>	<b>6/7/2023</b>
<b>SALARY RANGE:</b>	<b>IS-1015-11 (\$78,592.00 - \$102,166.00)</b>
<b>POSITION TYPE:</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>
<b>APPOINTMENT TYPE:</b>	<b>Indefinite</b>
<b>SCHEDULE:</b>	<b>Full Time</b>
<b>DUTY LOCATION:</b>	<b>Washington DC</b>

**Position sensitivity and risk**  
Non-sensitive (NS)/Low Risk

**Open to all qualified applicants**

The Smithsonian Institution provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation should contact the point-of-contact listed in the “How To Apply” section below. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis. To learn more, please review the Smithsonian’s [Accommodation Procedures](#).

The Smithsonian Institution is an **Equal Opportunity Employer**. We believe that a workforce comprising a variety of educational, cultural, and experiential backgrounds support and enhance our daily work life and contribute to the richness of our exhibitions and programs. See Smithsonian EEO program information: [www.si.edu/oeema](http://www.si.edu/oeema).

**KEY REQUIREMENTS**

- Pass Pre-employment Background Check and Subsequent Background Investigation for position designated as low risk
- Complete a 1-year probationary period
- Maintain a Bank Account for Direct Deposit/Electronic Transfer
- The position is open to all candidates eligible to work in the United States. Proof of eligibility to work in U.S. is not required to apply

**Conditions of Employment****COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS:**

For the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccination requirements and its impact on your application, click on Smithsonian Institution’s [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

## OVERVIEW

The Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art seeks to recruit an **Assistant Curator for Korean Art and Culture**.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art is committed to preserving, exhibiting, researching, and interpreting art in ways that deepen our collective understanding of Asia and the world. Home to more than 46,000 objects, the museum stewards one of North America's largest and most comprehensive collections of Asian art, with works dating from antiquity to the present from China, Japan, Korea, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Islamic world. Its rich holdings bring the arts of Asia into direct dialogue with an important collection of nineteenth- and early twentieth century American works, providing a unique platform for creative collaboration and cultural exchange between the United States, Asia, and the Middle East.

The museum's Freer Gallery of Art was one of the first venues in the United States to display Korean art. The Korean collection comprises 786 objects, a number of which are the finest examples of their kind outside of Korea. The collection is especially strong in ceramics; it also includes three of the sixteen Goryeo Buddhist paintings found in U.S. museums.

NMAA has a regular program of exhibitions and programming in Korean art, thanks to partnerships with the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; with the National Museum of Korea; with the Korea Foundation; with the Overseas Korean Cultural Heritage Foundation; and with the Korean Cultural Center in Washington DC, among others. In recent years, with the growing prominence of Korean culture across the globe, NMAA has increasingly shared its historical art collections alongside Korean popular culture in innovative programming on topics as diverse as Buddhism, film, food, fashion, performance, and contemporary art.

This newly created position represents a new chapter in our commitment to Korean art and accelerates our transformation as a leading global resource for understanding Asian art, culture, and societies, and their intersection with America. The Assistant Curator of Korean Art and Culture will be responsible for developing a robust program in premodern art as well as modern and contemporary art in traditional media; the curator will also be tasked with helping to shape and implement engaging Korean scholarly and public programs. The incumbent will serve as a national and international leader in the study and presentation of Korean art and culture.

The incumbent will be a member of the professional staff of the curatorial department performing duties related to the identification, acquisition, preservation, cataloging, exhibition, and interpretation of works of art. The incumbent will perform scholarly research in preparation of material for publication and furnish authoritative information on works in the field of specialization. The incumbent will develop original exhibitions and collaborate with other curators on cross-departmental exhibitions and research initiatives.

### Major duties include:

- Studying, displaying, publishing, and growing the museum's collection of Korean art
- Defining and completing innovative research projects that contribute to international understanding and appreciation of Korean art and culture and its contexts
- Providing leadership and guidance in the field of Korean art and culture studies and for programs domestically and internationally through projects, collaborations, and regular communication with specialists
- Building diverse audiences for Korean art and culture, traditional and modern

### Qualifications

Required:

- Ph D or equivalent in Korean art history or related field
- Knowledge of Korean art, history, and culture
- Ability to pursue historical research using primary sources and premodern documents
- Ability to situate Korean art in broader Asian context
- Ability to reach diverse audiences
- Ability to communicate equally effectively in English and Korean

Preferred:

- Familiarity with museum collection databases such as TMS
- Experience organizing museum-based projects

Applicants, who wish to qualify based on education completed outside the United States, must be deemed equivalent to higher education programs of U.S. Institutions by an organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials. This documentation is the responsibility of the applicant and should be included as part of your application package.

Any false statement in your application may result in your application being rejected and may also result in termination after employment begins.

The Smithsonian Institution values and seeks a diverse workforce. Join us in "Inspiring Generations through Knowledge and Discovery."

How To Apply:

<b>Please forward a resume, and cover letter to:</b>	<b>Email Address: FSG-asiaHR@si.edu</b>
	<b>Note:</b> Please include the position title in the subject line.
Applications received on or before <b>June 7, 2023, at 5:00pm (EST)</b> will be considered. Resumes should include a description of your paid and non-paid work experience that is related to this job; starting and ending dates of job (month and year); and average number of hours worked per week.	
Applications will be reviewed starting June 19, 2023.	
<b>What To Expect Next:</b> Once the vacancy announcement closes, a review of your resume will be compared against the qualification and experience requirements related to this job. After review of applicant resumes is complete, qualified candidates will be referred to the hiring manager.	

Relocation expenses are not paid.

**What are Trust Fund Positions?**

Trust Fund positions are unique to the Smithsonian. They are paid for from a variety of sources, including the Smithsonian endowment, revenue from our business activities, donations, grants and contracts. Trust employees are not part of the civil service, nor does trust fund employment lead to Federal status. The salary ranges for trust positions are generally the same as for federal positions and in many cases trust and federal employees work side by side. Trust employees have their own benefit program and may include Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, Life Insurance, Transit/Commuter Benefits, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, Annual and Sick Leave, Family Friendly Leave, 403b Retirement Plan, Discounts for Smithsonian Memberships, Museum Stores and Restaurants, Credit Union, Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (Child Care), Flexible Spending Account (Health & Dependent Care).

The Smithsonian values employee wellness, work-life balance and offers several exceptional benefits to its employees. To review our Benefit programs please click the link: <https://www.si.edu/ohr/benefits>