



Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship Call for Proposals 2014-2015

Deadline for Proposals: April 15, 2014

Opportunity:

The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria (AGGV) invites proposals from Aboriginal curators, art historians, and researchers who wish to be considered for the 2014-15 Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship.

The work of Aboriginal curators, art historians, and researchers is essential to the study and dissemination of Aboriginal art. It is crucial to create space and opportunities for this important work. The AGGV is pleased to offer the Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship, which provides an Aboriginal curator, art historian, or researcher with the financial support necessary to pursue an aspect of research related to Aboriginal visual arts.

The AGGV Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship was established in 2010 through an endowment by the Audain Foundation for the Visual Arts in British Columbia, and was the first Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship in Canada.

While the research might be the basis for a future publication, exhibition, or other project, the Fellowship is focused on the process of research rather than the production of a product. A portion of the Fellowship should be spent in Victoria, with the hope that there will be engagement with the local communities. The Curatorial Fellow is expected to offer a public program during their time at the AGGV, such as, but not limited to, a presentation on an aspect of their research.

Eligibility criteria:

Applicants must be of First Nations, Métis, or Inuit ancestry. This is an ideal opportunity for those individuals who have completed their training and are not affiliated with an institution.

Proposal requirements:

- a one page cover letter that provides a brief summary of your proposal and the nature of your interest in working with the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria;
- a proposal of 1,000 words or less that includes a description of your current research and the goals you hope to attain during the fellowship, including, if applicable, a description of the ways in which your work will connect with the local communities;
- a c.v. or biography;
- two letters of recommendation from people who are familiar with your work.

Term and resources:

The Fellowship is for a period of up to one year. The recipient will be provided with an office at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, administrative support, up to \$2,000 in travel support, and an honorarium of \$15,000.

History of Aboriginal exhibitions and projects at the AGGV:

The AGGV has presented solo exhibitions of work by outstanding Aboriginal artists such as Richard Hunt (2000), Ron Noganosh (2002), Rebecca Belmore (2007), Marianne Nicholson (2007-2008), and Kent Monkman (2010). In addition, group exhibitions examining Aboriginal art, ideas, and issues have been guest curated by Cathi Charles Wherry (*Earthy Gestures*, 2001, an exhibition exploring our capacity for relationship with the earth); Cathi Charles Wherry and Andrea Walsh (*Transporters: Contemporary Salish Art*, 2007-2008, an exhibition featuring the work of ten Salish artists in an exploration of how both new and long-held ideas can share a foundation in honour and respect for forebears); Richard William Hill (*World Upside Down*, 2009, an exhibition considering how Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artists utilize *inversion* as an artistic strategy); Rose Spahan (*SMASH: International Indigenous Weaving*, 2010, an exhibition bringing together examples of Coast Salish, Micmaq, American Southwest, Alaskan, and Hawaiian weaving traditions); and Rande Cook, lessLIE, and Nicole Stanbridge (*Urban Thunderbirds/Ravens in a Material World*, 2013-2014, an exhibition featuring work by Coast Salish artists lessLIE and Dylan Thomas and Kwakwaka'wakw artists Rande Cook and Francis Dick). Additionally, an AGGV touring exhibition entitled *Record, (Re)create: Contemporary Coast Salish Art from the Salish Weave Collection*, curated by Toby Lawrence, will travel to several venues throughout British Columbia in 2014-2015.

In 2011, the inaugural AGGV Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship was granted to France Trépanier and Chris Creighton-Kelly for their research project that explored the history of Aboriginal artists and artists of colour on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. In 2013, the Fellowship was granted to Angela Marston for her development of a research collection focused on Coast Salish stories, legends, and history as they relate to Aboriginal visual arts from the Coast Salish region.

Review and selection:

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel that will include Aboriginal peers as well as AGGV staff. Selection will be based on the strength of the proposed area of research and the evidence of the candidate's ability to complete the proposed project.

Submissions can be sent by mail, fax, or e-mail to:

Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship 2014-15
c/o Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
1040 Moss Street
Victoria, BC, V8V 4P1
Fax: 250.361.3995
e-mail: mjacques@aggv.ca

For more information please contact: Michelle Jacques, 250-384-4171, x224, mjacques@aggv.ca