OVERVIEW

The Curatorial Fellow is supervised by the VAC Director. Primary responsibilities include curating one exhibition at the VAC for fall 2020 and three solo exhibitions at the Courtyard Gallery (located in the AT&T Conference Center) for the 2020–21 season. The fellow serves as the liaison between the VAC and Center Space Project, the VAC’s student organization, assisting the VAC Gallery Manager in the coordination of CSP exhibitions and programming throughout the year and the annual call for proposals in the spring. The fellow is also responsible for managing the publication of the Studio Art MFA thesis exhibition catalog, to be published in summer 2020. Other tasks include helping VAC staff with various writing and administrative tasks. This is a 20 hour per week position starting Sept 1, 2019 and ending May 31, 2020, housed in the VAC office (ART 1.302H).

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Propose, research, organize and execute a major VAC exhibition slated for Fall 2020.
- Research, organize and execute three solo exhibitions for the Courtyard Gallery in 2020-21, and help facilitate previous fellow’s Courtyard exhibitions during fellowship year.
- Oversee production of the Studio Art MFA thesis exhibition catalog, including recruiting Art History graduate students to contribute essays, pairing Studio/Art History students, and editing texts for publication.
- Work with VAC’s student-run organization, Center Space Project, acting as a liaison between CSP officers and VAC staff, assisting with the call for proposals and selection process, and serving as a mentor for CSP on various projects.
- Assist in development of exhibition details and accompanying texts for numerous exhibitions, including wall text, work checklists, labels, etc.
- Liaise between VAC and Art History faculty/students as well as the general public.
- Maintain weekly office hours and meet with VAC staff as needed throughout the course of fellowship.
- Maintain weekly gallery hours, acting as a mentor for undergraduate work-study students.
- Attend special events including all VAC openings, with a focus on facilitating engaging visitor experiences.
Propose, research, organize and execute a major VAC exhibition slated for Fall 2020. Like all curatorial efforts, this process involves the writing of a prospectus and budget, research, meetings, and communications with artists. It includes all associated administrative efforts surrounding the exhibition. This includes identifying potential funding sources, coordinating fundraising efforts and conducting outreach for potential campus partnerships and foundation support. The fellow will work closely with the VAC and departmental staff on promoting and implementing the exhibition. The budget for this exhibition varies depending on the scope of the project.

Serve as VAC liaison for Center Space Project (CSP). The fellow meets periodically with the CSP officers to advise the group on their current and upcoming projects, including advising on exhibition layout, didactics, and programming. The fellow assists CSP in managing the annual call for proposals, including leading a curatorial workshop for interested applicants, and advises during proposal selection. The fellow assists CSP with additional programmatic and fundraising initiatives spearheaded by the organization.

Research, organize, and execute three solo exhibitions for the Courtyard Gallery. The fellow works closely with VAC staff to conceptualize and organize three solo exhibitions of work by Department of Art and Art History alumni. In addition to communication with the artists, the fellow has administrative responsibility for generating three exhibitions for the 2020–21 season. This includes an essay written by the fellow to be published in an exhibition publication. The project involves oversight of the exhibition and reception as well as working with a designer to create the publication. During the fellowship year, the fellow assists in the coordination of the current Courtyard exhibitions (organized by the previous Curatorial Fellow), including the organization of receptions for each exhibition opening.

Manage the production of the Studio Art MFA thesis exhibition catalogue. In the fall, the fellow matches each of the exhibiting artists with a graduate student in Art History. Each pair conducts several studio visits, culminating in an essay for the Studio Art MFA thesis exhibition catalogue to be published after the end of the spring semester. The fellow serves as project manager for the publication, maintaining regular contact with each pair of students, managing deadlines, and editing the final essay drafts. The fellow acts as a liaison between the artists and the scholars, and also coordinates brief discussions between the artist-scholar pairs at the annual thesis exhibition colloquia.

Actively participate in all VAC programmatic planning and implementation. The fellow provides assistance in strategizing marketing and PR, as well as curatorial and public programming in conjunction with the VAC/departmental staff. This includes working closely with VAC staff on exhibition details and accompanying text for numerous exhibitions. The fellow assists with some exhibition layouts, including the annual student exhibitions. The
fellow works with VAC staff and exhibiting artists to build deeper intellectual engagement with the exhibitions through panels, lectures, and additional associated programming.

**Liaise between the VAC and Art History faculty and students as well as the general public.**

As a member of the Art History community, the fellow helps relay information about programs and opportunities to faculty and students in that departmental division. This can be done via personal correspondence or formal meetings with members of the AH community. The fellow attends VAC events and selected local arts events as a VAC representative. At internal events, the fellow communicates the content of the exhibitions and their relationship to the mission of the VAC. This role supports the VAC and department's PR and development goals.

**Benefit to the fellow:**

Although the experience for each fellow will vary based on their specific research and interests, the VAC has set out to provide each fellow with the following:

The Curatorial Fellowship will offer a graduate student multiple experiences that are greatly beneficial for professional development. The fellow will gain experience in curatorial work by organizing their own exhibition as the culmination of their fellowship. They will also gain meaningful experience by participating directly in the layout of exhibitions, programming decisions, and writing and editing museum quality didactic texts. The fellow will also gain teaching experience in a museum setting through the mentorship of undergraduate students in Center Space Project, work-study gallery staff, and graduate students in Studio Art and Art History.