

Getty Research Institute

Getty



GRI Chief Curator



GETTY

Getty is a cultural and philanthropic institution dedicated to the presentation, conservation, and interpretation of the world's artistic legacy. Through the collective and individual work of its constituent programs—Getty Conservation Institute, Getty Foundation, J. Paul Getty Museum, and Getty Research Institute—Getty pursues its mission in Los Angeles and throughout the world, serving both the general interested public and a wide range of professional communities to promote a vital civil society through an understanding of the visual arts.

THE GETTY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Getty Research Institute (GRI) is an international center, dedicated to providing resources, expertise, and a collaborative environment for art-historical research and publication. It is dedicated to furthering knowledge and advancing understanding of the visual arts and their various histories through its expertise, active collecting program, public programs, institutional collaborations, exhibitions, publications, digital services, and residential scholars programs. The GRI's Research Library and Special Collections of rare materials and digital resources serve an international community of scholars and the interested public. Its activities and scholarly resources guide and sustain each other and together provide a unique environment for research, critical inquiry, and scholarly exchange.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

These special collections were acquired by the Getty Research Institute, an institutional partner dedicated to the scholarly work of researchers, artists, students, and enthusiasts throughout the world. The Getty Research Institute has the resources and the intent to continue to acquire and manage significant collections of work that reflect and document the overall development of humanity.

The GRI's curatorial department purview includes acquisitions and donations, working with the special collections management and conservation departments, with a particular interest in the intellectual content and scope of the collections. Daily work focuses on all aspects of acquisitions and donations as well as planning of exhibitions, lectures, publications, and digital projects. Curators, who have various media and subject expertise, are especially interested in the development of innovative access to collections to disseminate reference and research information. Departmental staff includes research assistants who work with the curators, as well as staff assistants, curatorial assistants, and a department budget coordinator. Along with daily curatorial and staff assistance to the curatorial team, the budget coordinator manages budget formulation, fiscal tracking, contracts, dissemination of collection information, and public relations.

For more information please visit: <https://www.getty.edu/research/institute>

THE GRI CHIEF CURATOR POSITION

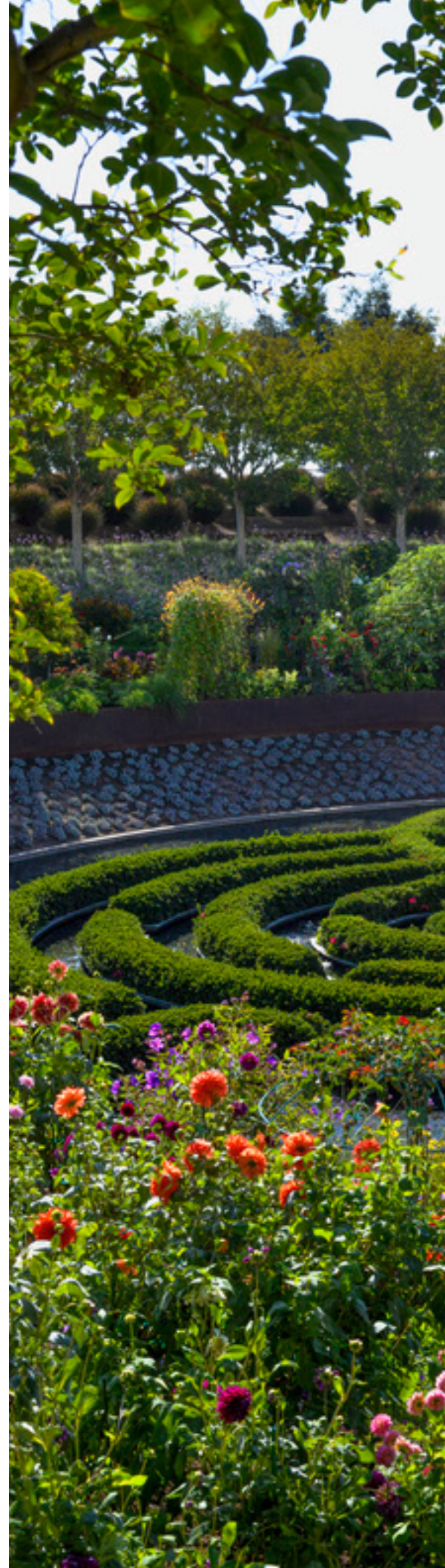
Reporting to the Associate Director of Collections & Discovery and working in close partnership with other members of the GRI management team, the GRI Chief Curator will develop and implement the GRI's strategic priorities for Special Collections in an academically stimulating environment. To accomplish this ongoing effort, the GRI Chief Curator will oversee a team of 11 Curators who collectively manage roughly 72,000 rare books, 27,000 single prints and drawings, 800 collections of rare photographs, and over 120,000 linear feet of manuscripts and archives, along with optical devices, architectural models, and audiovisual recordings.

The focus of the GRI Chief Curator will be to support the acquisition and collection process from a wide variety of perspectives; facilitate the internal frameworks that reflect a collection mission and strategy that responds to shifts in scholarship and engage new audiences; facilitate and support acquisitions through a developed art-market network; streamline the administrative practices regarding the acquisition process that range from storage to cataloging; and explore the unlimited options to create access and amplify the acquired and newly acquired content with the curators and institutional partners.

The efforts of the GRI Chief Curator and curators will be anchored in a strong interest to bring existing departments and work processes into alignment and center the work along the core set of values: Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion so that the GRI can more effectively advance the local, transnational, and global discovery of research materials essential to the study of art history and visual culture.

The GRI Chief Curator works closely with other institutions within Getty, including the Museum, the Conservation Institute and the Foundation to encourage further discourse and collaboration (acquisitions, exhibitions, and programming) to strengthen the work of this department in furthering Getty's mission.

With up to 20 staff members and a robust acquisitions budget, the GRI Chief Curator will have the opportunity to create world-class collections in the advancement of research at the Getty and around the globe.





STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

- Establish a collection acquisition framework, strategy, and process that shapes the planning and execution of all efforts of the department.
- Develop collaborative working relationships with institutional partners including the Museum, the Conservation Institute, the Foundation, and other related departments such as Special Collections Management that work with and partner with this department.
- Engage with external partners to enhance acquisitions, exhibitions, and publications of existing collections and support the reimagining of existing collections from different perspectives that engage new audiences.
- Support the scholarly publication interests of each curator as key contributors to the journals of the Getty and other publications.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The following responsibilities represent the encompassing portfolio of the GRI Chief Curator:

Management:

- Oversees and manages the curatorial division in research on acquisitions and donations of archives and rare materials to widen the possibilities for scholarly investigation of the history of visual culture and deepen knowledge of art, architecture, and cultural heritage worldwide.
- Oversees and manages an integrated partnership process of acquisition development to seek complementary materials in various media and formats that both build on the existing strengths of the GRI's Special Collections and help it expand into new areas.
- Provides broad curatorial vision, directs the department budget, and supervises and meets regularly with the curatorial staff, administrative assistants, and department coordinator.
- Works with the senior curators to direct the activities of the curatorial sections – contemporary and modern, photography, and architecture as well as the African American Art History and Latin American Art History Initiatives.
- Oversees Collection Development Council meetings and Curatorial department meetings.
- Meets regularly with the GRI Council members regarding the GRI collections.
- Represents the GRI at local, national, and international level meetings and conferences.
- Leads initiatives and strategies for diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.



Acquisitions:

- Oversees the workflow involved in all acquisitions and donations that are offered and/or discovered.
 - Oversees the creation and maintenance of central files on purchases, declines, and donations, as well as the Offer-log which tracks considerations.
 - Works with rare book, archive, photography, and print dealers and collectors to consider, negotiate and propose acquisitions as well as the receipt of materials.
 - Reviews incoming offers with curators, advising and guiding them about assessment, negotiation, legal and license requirements, and contracts, while informing senior directors on details of all purchases, donations, and auction bids.
 - Reviews all acquisitions proposals recorded in the acquisitions database for completeness of information, provenance, description, condition, shipping arrangements, etc.
 - Works with curators to ensure proposals are reviewed, presented, and approved at appropriate levels.
 - Works with the curatorial budget coordinator to make sure expenditures are appropriately balanced among the various subject areas and media of the Special Collections budget.
 - Ensures that acquisitions in progress are suitable to both the available funds and the projected schedules for receipts are proceeding, being moved into encumbrances when appropriate, so that funds are expended evenly over the budget year, and fully by the year's end.
 - Tracks progress of major annual and multiyear acquisitions, meeting with involved curators regularly to monitor progress.
- Coordinates and approves shipments with Special Collections Management, Conservation, and the Library.
 - Supervises the preparation of new acquisitions lists and single acquisitions PR for the Curatorial Quarterly reports, the Board Book, and Trust Annual Reports and meets regularly with GRI Digital Media/Content Strategy and Getty Communications concerning PR for new acquisitions.
 - Writes regularly on Special Collections for Getty publications and websites, as well as publishes in catalogs and journals; and delegates articles to be written for the Getty Magazine, blog posts, etc.



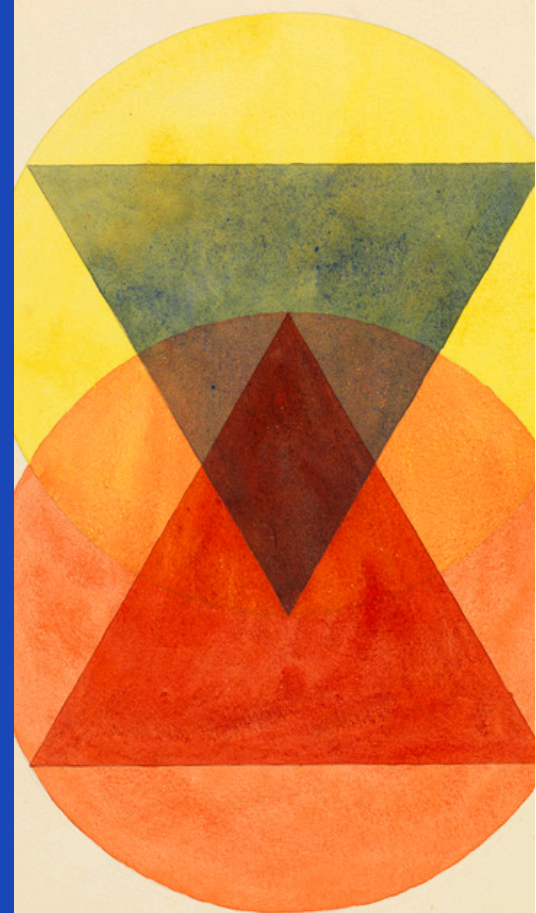


Registrars and Exhibitions:

- Receives and evaluates incoming exhibition loan requests (some already coordinated by a borrower with a GRI curator), assigns appropriate curators to work with registrars and conservators, and replies to the borrower.
- Monitors exhibition loans, discussing works to be loaned with curators in terms of value, condition, length of time, and the number of objects.
- Monitors incoming external loan requests given the GRI exhibition schedule or other large requests in progress and meets as needed with the Head of Exhibitions, Senior Registrar, and Head of Conservation to discuss information.
- Works with curators to develop an exhibition program in tandem with senior management and the Exhibitions department.

Library, Reference, and Research:

- Works with Library Reference librarians to teach classes and workshops in Special Collections; researching, writing, and publishing scholarship; and contributing to the GRI's exhibitions.



THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will be a scholar and also a strong administrator and manager who may come from the worlds of art libraries, rare book libraries, and special collections, university libraries, academia more generally, or from a foundation, museum, or other cultural institution focused on humanistic inquiry. They will lead a department noted for its collegiality among the staff who embody a willingness to experiment with new ideas and approaches. The department will continue to work on generating groundbreaking exhibitions, publications, and research projects that the ideal candidate will influence. There is also a keen interest to expand acquisitions broadly, including but not limited to: Asia, Africa, and the Near East.

The new GRI Chief Curator will support the growth and shift of this department into one that reflects 21st century collection best practices and will be noted for their administrative, management, and problem-solving abilities. Growth, enthusiasm, and excitement will be the result of inspired collaboration from the curators advocated by the new GRI Chief Curator, particularly with the institutions within the Getty and most importantly with The Getty Trust. This is an exceptional opportunity for a candidate passionate about the centrality of visual culture to join the management team at one of the world's premier humanities-based research institutes.

Furthermore, the ideal candidate will possess the following required qualifications and competencies:

Qualifications

- Master's degree in art history, art administration, OR 10+ years of curatorial experience OR Ph.D.
- Broad knowledge of Art History.
- Curatorial experience or adjacent experience.
- Fluency in at least one foreign language (modern or ancient) is required.
- Highest-level technical contributor in specialized curatorial functions.
- Experience in the art market is essential.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Recognized ability to build long-term relationships, partner and direct teams across disciplines.
- Strong administrator and manager.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, and great strengths regarding planning, and problem-solving.
- Keen diplomacy and political skills.
- Experience working within a complex institution, and managing a large department.
- Experience working with and managing encyclopedic collections.
- Keen interest in working with external partners that can range from peer institutions to education partners.
- Being innovative and open to new ideas.
- Proficient with collection management and digital asset management tools.
- Accomplished in scholarly historical research and writing.





COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The Hiring Pay Scale for the position is \$148,398 – \$200,347 annually. Getty offers a competitive full employment benefits package. To learn more about our comprehensive benefits and a long list of perks, go to **GettyHR.com**.

Apply

The position will remain open until filled. First consideration will be given to applications received by **June 30, 2023**. To apply for this outstanding opportunity, please electronically submit your resume, letter of interest to **The Byers Group** at: **chief.curator@byersgroupca.com**. The letter of interest should outline why you are interested in joining GRI and your relevant accomplishments. Please provide two examples of why you would be a strong candidate and the key attributes you would bring to this position.



THE BYERS GROUP
EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND C-SUITE CONSULTING

Confidential inquiries are encouraged and can be directed to:

Ms. Brett Byers
brett@byersgroupca.com
323-403-8279

Ms. Christine Boulware
christine@byersgroup.com
312-691-6098

The Getty is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, veteran status or physical or mental disability.

Getty's EEO statement

We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, ancestry, citizenship or immigration status, color, disability, ethnicity, familial status, gender identity and/or expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other protected status.

Getty's COVID statement

All Getty employees must be fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus as a condition of employment. Exemptions from this requirement as a reasonable accommodation due to medical contraindication, disability or sincerely held religious belief or practice will be considered.

Getty's Diversity statement

Getty believes diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion are essential to our excellence and the execution of our mission. The Getty community values differences in the pursuit of inquiry and knowledge, mutual understanding, respect, trust, transparency, and cooperation. We are committed to creating a diverse and welcoming workplace that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve and includes individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Individuals of color, women, LGBTQIA+, veterans, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.