

ByalaSearch LLC

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ByalaSearch LLC is pleased to announce that our firm has been retained by the Katonah Museum of Art to identify candidates for the position of Executive Director.

ABOUT THE KATONAH MUSEUM OF ART

Established in 1953, the Katonah Museum of Art is a non-collecting institution accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Dedicated to the promotion and understanding of visual art and cultural heritage through exhibitions and education programs, the KMA is committed to presenting exceptional art from all cultures and time periods, ancient to contemporary.

The KMA mounts three to four exhibitions annually, covering a broad range of art and humanities while responding to the most critical issues of our time through a bold and vigorous lens.

The institution offers lectures, films, workshops, concerts, and other events for a general audience; and presents innovative and substantive programs for over 100 member schools. The KMA Learning Center is the only interactive space in Westchester County where children can come on a daily basis to explore and create art.

Designed by eminent Modernist architect Edward Larrabee Barnes, the intimate museum building is nestled in the surrounding landscape, inviting light and natural beauty to its atrium and galleries. It perfectly ascribes to Barnes' ideals of simplicity and functionality.

The Katonah Museum of Art serves as a welcoming and anchoring cultural institution within its local community, for all ages and backgrounds, as well as for frequent visitors from New York City, Westchester County, and the Tri-State Area.

PRIMARY FUNCTION

The Katonah Museum of Art seeks a visionary Executive Director with experience and standing in the museum and cultural worlds and a track record demonstrating excellence in leading exhibition, community, and educational programming, who can envision and realize the KMA's next chapter.

The Executive Director will be a dynamic leader with a collaborative spirit who will work closely with a dedicated Board and staff to realize the KMA's distinctive role within the community and the broader cultural landscape. To advance the Museum's artistic vision, the Executive Director will have the curatorial background to lead the KMA staff in

planning and presenting exhibitions and programs that inspire new learning and engagement in the arts.

As the Museum's principal spokesperson and advocate, both in the community and in the institutional realm, the Executive Director will work with stakeholders at every level to develop a creative strategic plan supported by partnerships with local, regional, and national arts and cultural organizations, and with lenders from museum, gallery, and private collections. The Executive Director will have a successful track record in fundraising for operations, programming, and capital development, from both private and public sources, as well as experience in recruiting, managing, and mentoring a diverse professional team.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Specific Responsibilities in the following areas include but are not limited to:

LEADERSHIP AND VISION

- Working in consultation with the Board leadership, create a multi-year strategic plan anchored by an ambitious curatorial program and a vision for development of the unique assets of the Museum's campus.
- Nurture a team of 11 full-time staff (with 5 direct reports) and 12 part-time staff as well as volunteers committed to a shared vision for excellence in Curatorial and Educational Programming, Community Engagement, Marketing and Development, Finance, and Operations.
- Set organizational priorities and create a framework for accountability supported by consistent messaging across all platforms, clearly articulating the mission of the Katonah Museum of Art to all constituencies.
- Work closely with operations and finance staff to provide sound fiscal leadership and fiduciary oversight, including management of the Museum's nearly \$2.0 million annual budget, maintenance of its architecturally distinctive campus, and shepherding and growth of its \$6.0 million endowment.

PROGRAMMING AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Lead the KMA's Curatorial and Program teams to build relationships and standing within New York City, in the Tri-State region, and in the broader cultural world as an active participant in the network of organizations planning and presenting temporary exhibitions in all categories of art and material culture.
- Build a presence in the Katonah and Bedford communities to enable the development of robust relationships with Museum visitors and patrons; artists, collectors, and leaders of regional arts and cultural organizations; and town, county, and state partners.

- Cultivate partnerships with private lenders, galleries, museums, and cultural institutions to build and execute exhibitions that promote the understanding of material culture, past and present.
- Plan and lead the KMA's fundraising strategy, working with its Development and Marketing teams to sustain and grow support for exhibitions, programming, and capital development from individual, corporate, foundation, and public sources.

Qualifications and Core Competencies

- An academic background in art history and/or the humanities, business administration, museum management and/or other disciplines that qualify the candidate to lead a museum embracing the KMA's commitment to exhibition planning, education, and community engagement with the arts; a graduate degree in art history and/or business administration is preferred.
- A demonstrated capacity to lead, manage, and inspire, preferably with minimum of five years' experience in a museum or comparable cultural institution; ability to hire, retain, and mentor a diverse staff and to build a shared commitment to the KMA's central goals.
- A proven fundraiser with a meaningful track record in institutional advancement and relationship building among a broad and diverse community of stakeholders.
- Possesses an understanding of the importance of digital technology and social media as platforms for today's museums, so as to maximize the KMA's potential to strengthen the visitor experience, enhance educational goals, and build marketing potential.

Katonah

About 50 miles north of New York City, on the Metro North Harlem Line, the KMA is located in Katonah, New York, a hamlet in the Town of Bedford with a rich historical past and a vibrant present. Katonah is a walkable residential town with main street vitality, a burgeoning gallery scene, and an abundance of community organized cultural programming. It is also home to the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts and the John Jay Homestead, and is positioned as a gateway to the Hudson Valley serving as an anchor to the Tri-State arts region.

The Katonah Museum of Art is an equal opportunity employer and considers all candidates for employment regardless of race, color, gender, age, national origin, creed, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or political affiliation. Applications from BIPOC, persons with disabilities, women, LGBTQ+, and other underrepresented applicants are encouraged.

Kindly send nominations or expressions of interest to:

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