

CONSERVATOR

The Costume Institute

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Since 1870, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, one of the preeminent cultural institutions in the world, has considered its employees among its greatest assets. The Museum provides exciting opportunities for employees to enrich and develop their love of the arts while contributing their specific skills and talents to the mission of the Museum.

Nestled in Central Park and anchoring New York's famous Museum Mile, the Met seeks a Conservator who shall have overall responsibility to ensure the proper care, preservation, and treatment of The Costume Institute's encyclopedic collection and coordinate flexible conservation support to the department's ongoing commitments (exhibitions and installations, loans and acquisitions, assessments) and special projects. The Conservator is relied upon to establish and recommend conservation guidelines, oversee condition reports, packing and storage, object treatments, and provide project management of departmental conservation and installation activities, while collaborating closely with the curatorial and Collections Management staff and other institutions in a fast-paced environment.

Primary Responsibilities and Specific Duties:

The Conservator will coordinate and establish conservation initiatives, maintenance, and treatments related to the Costume Institute Collection in consultation with departmental curators; oversee and coordinates all object installations and de-installations, both loans and in-house exhibitions, oversees and participates in exhibition maintenance; manage conservation treatment and condition reports for all objects, incoming/outgoing loans, and acquisitions; survey collections and evaluates environmental conditions to provide recommendations for proper and safe storage and exhibition; supervise Associate Conservator, Research Associate - Installation, Conservation Assistant, contract conservators, and qualified interns to ensure highest quality work is performed in a timely and efficient manner; assist Collections Manager with conservation planning and provides support to The Capital Project and critical object re-housing; oversee departmental Conservation Laboratory activities upkeep and maintenance; and perform other related duties.

Requirements and Experience:

Experience and Skills:

Broad knowledge of established textile and costume conservation procedures and protocols; knowledge of dyes, microscopy, instrumental and other analytical tools for the investigation of objects; proven sewing, object dressing, and hand skills; excellent interpersonal, planning, and organizational skills; attention to detail with dedicated follow-up; excellent verbal and written communication skills; comfortable with public speaking; and preference and experience in working in a collaborative environment.

Knowledge and Education:

Requires a minimum of ten years as a practicing conservator, Museum experience preferred; a minimum of five years conservation laboratory management and administrative experience; an advanced degree in Textile Conservation; a graduate level degree in Costume Studies preferred.

The Conservator/The Costume Institute is full-time and includes full benefits. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Send cover letter, indicating position of interest, resume, list of publications, salary history, and names of references, to:

employoppty@metmuseum.org

as a Word attachment only with the position title in the subject line
or mail to:

ATTN: HR-MW-CCI

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Equal Opportunity Employer