THE SEARCH

The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts and Arizona State University (ASU) seek a Director of The School of Art. The director will provide innovative, aspirational leadership for the school’s vital participation in ASU’s vision for a New American University: a reinvention of higher education in which artists and arts-based inquiry are core values within the nation’s largest public university and global research institution. The director will lead a progressive school that is positioned to prepare a new generation of artists, art historians, and educators from diverse backgrounds to succeed, using their creative capacities to advance culture, build community and imaginatively address the most pressing challenges of today.

THE UNIVERSITY

Arizona State University has developed a new model for the American research university, creating an institution fundamentally and simultaneously committed to exemplary academic performance, exceptionally broad student access and diversity, and local and global social impact. As the New American University, ASU promotes excellence in research and among its students, faculty and staff, believes in the value of ready access to its educational resources, and encourages engagement with communities to positively impact social and economic development. With more than 80,000 students, the university encourages intellectual and cultural diversity, welcoming students from all 50 states and more than 120 nations worldwide. Built around intellectual fusion, the university invests in collaborative teams that accelerate human-centered solutions addressing the largest and most challenging social problems of our time. president.asu.edu/about/asucharter

The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts

The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, the nation’s largest comprehensive design and arts school at a research university, is a vibrant example of the New American University philosophy. With 5,000 students, more than 400 faculty and faculty associates, 125 degrees and certificates, and a tradition of top-ranked programs, the Herberger Institute is built on a combination of disciplines unlike any other program in the nation. The Institute includes the School of Art; the School of Arts, Media and Engineering; The Design School; the School of Film, Dance and Theatre; the School of Music; and the ASU Art Museum. All Herberger Institute programs encourage integration of practice and theory with an emphasis on the responsibilities of artists and designers in society. The Institute’s location in one of the nation’s fastest growing cities, set in a beautiful and delicate desert landscape, influences its focus on the environmental and social issues of the region. Through recognizing that design and the arts are
critical resources for transforming society and solving complex problems, the Herberger Institute is committed to positioning artists, scholars, designers, and educators at the center of public life.
herbergerinstitute.asu.edu

The School of Art
The ASU School of Art, one of the most comprehensive in the nation, prepares students for the creative and critical challenges of the global 21st century through more than a dozen areas of study. The school has programs in art history, art education, museum studies, and fine arts with concentrations in art education, ceramics, drawing, fibers, intermedia, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture, including wood and metals, with ample opportunities for cross disciplinary collaboration. A new bachelor’s degree in fashion will begin in fall 2017. U.S. News & World Report ranks the ASU School of Art 20th nationally with three of the school’s graduate programs ranking among the nation’s highest: 5th in printmaking; 7th in ceramics; 9th in photography. The School of Art has also designed an innovative online art history program with 250 undergraduate students and has invested in the launch of a new online digital photography degree. The school has maintained breadth, depth, and rigor through a robust curriculum, embracing ASU’s vision for a New American University.

The School of Art maintains four galleries: Harry Wood Gallery, Step Gallery, Gallery 100 and the Northlight Gallery of Photographic Arts. Exhibitions of student work as well as curated national and international exhibitions draw visitors from throughout the community. Grant St. Studios, a 40,000 square-foot studio space located in downtown Phoenix, houses the MFA studios as well as Northlight Gallery of Photographic Arts and the Step Gallery. This newly renovated warehouse in the Design District of Phoenix provides purpose-built facilities for all of the MFA studio areas creating a strong sense of community and collaboration across the studio disciplines. The building’s proximity to the downtown arts district has lead to increased interchange between the School of Art and the larger Phoenix art world. The School of Art has 860 undergraduate and 85 graduate students, 45 tenure/tenure track faculty, 3 academic professionals, 3 lecturer/instructors, and 40+ faculty associates.

THE DIRECTOR
ASU, the Herberger Institute, and the School of Art seek a visionary director with a broad perspective and record of innovative thought and creation. The new director will lead faculty and students in shaping the future of artistic and scholarly work through inventive curricula, field-defining research, and globally renowned programs. We seek an individual who recognizes the complexity of the School of Art enterprise, understands and value the finest emerging scholarship and creative work in a wide range of fields represented in the school, and who can engage with the community, the Institute, and the University in common purpose. This inspirational leader will have demonstrated success in mentorship and professional development of emerging artists and scholars and a zest for promoting research, creative work, and collaboration.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Advanced degree in an appropriate discipline; or equal or equivalent distinguished academic or professional experience;
• Demonstrated scholarly, creative, or professional accomplishment that is recognized nationally and internationally;

• Demonstrated administrative ability coupled with the ability to delegate, prioritize and make timely, transparent and well-considered decisions.

DESIRE QUALIFICATIONS

• Understanding and appreciation of excellence in the diverse disciplines represented in the School of Art, and sensitivity to the unique needs of a diverse community of practicing professionals;

• Demonstrated support for traditional and emerging technologies and the development of leading edge curricula;

• Significant administrative experience in a complex organizational setting;

• Experience as a leader with skill in collaborative practice;

• Ability to articulate the importance of the arts and art education;

• An informed grasp of key issues affecting faculty recruitment, retention, and promotion; and scholarly productivity;

• Zest for catalyzing research;

• Experience in staff recruitment and development;

• Demonstrated ability for mentorship and professional development of emerging artists and/or scholars, including undergraduate and graduate students;

• Experience in fiscal planning and development activities;

• Excellent oral and written communication skills;

• Willingness to circulate widely, communicate openly, listen well and learn from others;

• Creativity, flexibility, tenacity, optimism, and high energy level.

The director reports directly to the dean of the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, and is one of six directors in the Herberger Institute leadership team.

This position is a full-time, 12-month academic administrative appointment with a preferred starting date of July 1, 2017.
TO APPLY

The national executive search firm, Isaacson, Miller has been hired to assist with this search. All inquiries and nominations should be directed to them. Review of applications will begin immediately and the position will remain open until filled. For best consideration, please submit materials by January 20, 2017. Confidential inquiries, nominations or applications (a curriculum vitae and a letter of interest that is responsive to the position described above), should be submitted electronically to:

Ben Tobin or Julie Yermack
Isaacson, Miller
263 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-262-6500
www.imsearch.com/5965

Arizona State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. ASU conducts pre-employment screening for all positions, which includes a criminal background check, verification of work history, academic credentials, licenses, and certifications.

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