

Art Department RSAP Position Description

This application is a request for a new project-based Rhodes Student Associates Program position for the Department of Art. The student will work under the supervision of Karen Brunsting, Curator of Visual Resources, to locate, catalog, and photograph the art collection of the Art Department.

Responsibilities:

The student will be responsible for locating, photographing and assessing the condition of each work, updating or creating a catalog record for the work, and uploading images and data to a web-based collections management system.

The Curator of Visual Resources will introduce the student to the basic methods of museum collections management, including preparing Condition Reports, photographing works of art, and creating a digital collections catalog on MDID.

Benefits to the Department and College:

Over the years, the Department of Art has acquired a fairly large collection of artwork, mostly created by students. Each year, at the end of the spring semester, the Department purchases a work created by a graduating senior. In addition, there are a number of works created by and/or donated by faculty. Unfortunately, records on the works have not been kept up to date. Existing records consist of an incomplete card catalog, which has not been updated since the 1990s. Since that time some of these artworks have been moved and their locations are unknown. Works purchased since the last inventory have not been recorded.

These works have both artistic and monetary value. It would be of considerable benefit to the Department and College to have an accurate collection catalog. Further, by making the collection available to MDID users, the college would gain access to digital collections of other participating institutions.

Student Associate Requirements:

The student should have an interest in art and archival or museum studies, especially in the area of collections management. A major in Art is preferred, but not necessary. The student must be able to take good quality digital photographs and possess the curiosity and persistence to locate hard-to-find objects that may be scattered around the campus.