

## **SEATTLE ART MUSEUM (SAM) UPDATE ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

May 22, 2023

SEATTLE – The Seattle Art Museum and VSO Union bargaining teams met in person Monday, May 22 for the fourteenth collective bargaining session. This was the sixth meeting of 2023 and another productive session that advanced negotiations.

The meeting resulted in two new tentative agreements (TAs), bringing our total to 20 TAs that we have reached in partnership with the VSO Union. Monday's TAs dealt with the process of onboarding new employees and our policies around progressive discipline. These are important steps that demonstrate progress toward a comprehensive agreement.

This latest meeting continued our lively and robust discussions with the VSO Union on issues that reflect our shared interests and priorities. We engaged in substantive dialogue about email communication and retirement plan funds so that both parties understand each other's positions and goals.

In addition to these discussions, we passed counterproposals regarding paid time for email communication and job descriptions and promotions. The VSO Union bargaining team passed proposals regarding temporary coverage pay differential and minimum weekly hours for part-time employees.

We hope this collaborative process with the VSO Union will lead to a collective bargaining agreement that both sides can support, reflecting our values as an organization.

The next two bargaining sessions are scheduled for June 6 and June 27, and we will provide summaries following those meetings.

### **ABOUT SEATTLE ART MUSEUM**

As the leading visual art institution in the Pacific Northwest, SAM draws on its global collections, powerful exhibitions, and dynamic programs to provide unique educational resources benefiting the Seattle region, the Pacific Northwest, and beyond.

From a strong foundation of Asian art to noteworthy collections of African and Oceanic art, Northwest Coast Native American art, European and American art, and modern and contemporary art, the strength of SAM's collection of approximately 25,000 objects lies in its diversity of media, cultures, and time periods.

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