

SEATTLE ART MUSEUM (SAM) UPDATE ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

September 29, 2022

SEATTLE - The Seattle Art Museum (SAM) bargaining team met with representatives from the SAM VSO Union on Tuesday, September 27 for the third collective bargaining session. Discussions were detailed, candid, and constructive. We engaged on several issues of mutual importance and continued making progress toward reaching agreement.

During the meeting, we thoroughly reviewed the union's counterproposal for the grievance procedures, including ways to make the process more efficient and effective. The SAM bargaining team believes the sides are close to an agreement on this topic and will present its response in the next bargaining session.

Additionally, we engaged in healthy discussion about the importance of ensuring SAM is a safe and inclusive workplace for all employees. We appreciated the Union's perspectives and emphasized our commitment to communicating more clearly about SAM's existing anti-harassment policies and procedures.

We are confident that both teams will approach our next session ready to make progress, particularly on grievance procedures and guidelines for union stewards.

The next bargaining session with the VSO Union will be on October 10 and we look forward to another productive conversation.

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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.