

## **Freelance Inaugural Exhibition Curator, Science Gallery Atlanta**

*Please find information about Science Gallery Atlanta, the Science Gallery network and the HOOKED exhibition at the end of this posting.*

### **Position Description:**

Science Gallery Atlanta (SGA), a new initiative launched in partnership between Emory University and Science Gallery International, seeks applicants for the position of freelance Curator for our debut exhibition, HOOKED, expected to run in early 2022. The primary focus will be the curation, production, and delivery of the exhibition season, comprising newly created and existing exhibits, transdisciplinary projects, and accompanying events.

Serving as a public ambassador for HOOKED and SGA to regional, national, and international communities, the Exhibition Curator will be an experienced curator with excellent people skills and the ability to deliver a mixture of exhibits and programs in collaboration with multiple stakeholders. The Curator will focus on developing and executing transdisciplinary, experimental, and interactive installations with the support of a curatorial panel of academics, artists, and young people.

**Key Responsibilities:** Working with the Acting Director and Project Manager of SGA, the Curator will be responsible for the following:

- Assist SGA in the open call process to identify potential installations, artworks, experiments, events, workshops, and performances for inclusion in the exhibition and ancillary program of activities
- Develop a collaborative process to develop, commission, and curate exhibits in partnership with the curatorial team, artists, Emory faculty, the SGA leadership team, and other stakeholders, ensuring strong engagement throughout the process of young adults in our target audience range of 15-25-year-olds especially
- Draft exhibit briefs and other related written materials
- Lead the delivery and management of exhibits
- Work with the Acting Director to support the negotiation and completion of artwork commissions and exhibit loan agreements/contracts and arrangements, including insurance arrangements where required
- Attend internal and external meetings as required to drive and report on the progress of projects; to inform overall project planning, preproduction and delivery; and to ensure smooth coordination of logistics, budgets and scheduling.
- Provide regular progress updates to Acting Director, SGA leadership team, and curatorial team
- Work with diverse stakeholders to develop a public program of events and speakers
- Coordinate and integrate the activities of the curatorial team, artists, researchers, consultants, exhibition designers, technicians, facilities staff, invited speakers, and fabricators and security as needed
- Monitor project budget and project schedules
- Supervise installation and de-installation of exhibits, and organize the transportation of exhibits as necessary

- Coordinate with external contractors for specialized aspects of exhibition and sound design, construction, fabrication, etc., and ensure quality control and timely delivery
- Review exhibition, graphic, audio-visual design in collaboration with the curatorial team
- Supervise the activities of the on-floor technicians, including carpenters, electricians, maintenance and other support staff, to ensure the quality of work and timeliness of delivery
- Coordinate with the SGA finance team to ensure timely release of funds for approved invoices, payment of all bills and monitoring of expenses
- Collaborate with the SGA leadership team to design and execute communications strategies to ensure successful promotion of the exhibition, including serving as an ambassador for SGA on social and traditional media and in other public forums
- Coordinate publications with the communications manager, including essays, films, photographs, interactive learning, etc., both on-line and off-line
- Supervise the work of up to two interns
- Develop a documentation system to maintain information and records of various aspects of program and exhibition
- With the SGA team and committee, coordinate the evaluation of the season for visitor impact and learning, and collaborate in reporting results

**Required Qualifications:**

- High level of creativity
- Experience and knowledge in exhibition curation and production in the arts
- Experience devising creative solutions to complex problems in a fast-paced environment
- High degree of organizational skills; self-motivated; outstanding personal skills
- Demonstrated ability to prioritize, manage time, work under pressure, and adhere to strict deadlines
- Ability to take initiative as well as work as part of a team
- Strong communication skills
- Willingness to work flexible hours as needed, including attending after-hours functions, meetings, and public events
- Bachelor's degree

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Strong competence across technological platforms, including social media
- Experience in arts management or educational programming (especially in the sciences or arts)
- Digital marketing experience a plus
- Experience in event marketing and communications
- Existing, strong network and credibility in regional science and/or arts communities

**Terms of Employment**

This is a freelance position of one-year duration. Fees will be structured depending on the contract route and experience. Future permanent Emory employment is a possibility. Timelines will be addressed as part of the hiring process, but applicants should expect heavy time commitment from the start date through February 2021 and leading up to the exhibition in early 2022.

### Applying

To apply, please send an email to [melanie.lawrence@emory.edu](mailto:melanie.lawrence@emory.edu)  
Subject line should be "Science Gallery Atlanta Curator application".

Please attach the following:

- Resume
- A cover letter (can be addressed to Melanie Lawrence) or a statement explaining your motivation and suitability for the position, keeping in mind the specifications mentioned above.

We are ready to start this role immediately, so please express an interest as soon as possible.

### [About Science Gallery Atlanta](#)

In January 2020, Emory University became the 8th member of the [Science Gallery Network](#) (SGN). Comprised of top global universities, it is [the only network dedicated to public engagement with science and art](#). It brings together science, art, technology, and design to deliver world-class educational and cultural experiences for all participants, with a specific focus on reaching young people 15 to 25 years of age. The SGN galleries, pop-up programs, touring exhibitions, and now online experiences, are dedicated to inspiring and transforming curious minds and have reached millions with stimulating, educational, and participative transdisciplinary programs.

Science Gallery Atlanta (SGA) is creating a space where youth and the community can come together to reimagine education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century through the fusion of art and science. This immersive, multi-dimensional experience will foster a dynamic new model for community engagement focused on participatory science, innovation, and imagination. By bringing together the arts and sciences in ways that delight, clarify, educate, and stimulate, SGA is building our collective understanding of complex issues to yield creative solutions for some of the world's most pressing global challenges.

### [HOOKED Inaugural Exhibition](#)

HOOKED delves deeply into the complex world of addiction and recovery, exploring the neuroscientific, psychological, social, and cultural aspects of the phenomena. HOOKED seeks to explore questions such as: What is inadequate or even wrong with what we think we know about addiction? Are the things that get us hooked also the things that make life worth living? Don't most of us sometimes feel the need to fill some kind of inner void? When do our relationships with the things that help us cope with stress become compulsive rather than helpful or fun? Why do some people become addicted while others simply don't? Is addiction a moral failing, a crime, or just a part of being human? When does the balance tip into a harmful cycle, and how can we extricate ourselves from it?

The exhibition HOOKED will include a range of artworks inspired by scientific research, exploring addiction on personal, clinical, scientific, social levels, and from a number of different perspectives. A public program of events, activities, workshops, and performances will run before and alongside the exhibition.