



Art Faculty & Gallery Director (full-time, tenure track) Art Department

About North Park:

Founded in 1891, North Park University is a Christian university affiliated with the Evangelical Covenant Church of over 3,200 students from around the country and world. Located for over 125 years on the land of the Miami and Potawatomi tribes in what is today Chicago's northside, NPU has recently been designated a Hispanic Serving Institution and is committed to serving diverse populations. Elevating North Park University's core distinctives of Christian, city-centered, and intercultural, NPU values diversity among its faculty and is committed to building a racially and culturally diverse intellectual community, and strongly encourages the nomination and candidacies of persons who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color regardless of gender.

MISSION: The mission of North Park University is to prepare students for lives of significance and service through education in the liberal arts, professional studies, and theology.

VISION: Building on our core institutional identity—Christian, city-centered, intercultural—our vision is to create a university of uncommon character and enduring excellence, where faith, learning, and service meet.

North Park University is located in the Albany Park neighborhood of Chicago, one of the most ethnically diverse zip codes in the United States. It is nine miles from downtown Chicago. The North Park campus has often been referred to as an oasis in the heart of the city – a place where students from urban, rural, and suburban backgrounds alike can call home. And all of this within the major metropolitan backdrop of Chicago: one of the world's largest and most diversified economies, renowned for its museums and music, and voted best large city in the U.S. for four years in a row by Condé Nast Traveler.

School of Music, Art, and Theatre (SMAT):

Our Mission: The programs of the School of Music, Art, and Theatre offer challenging curricula enriched by the diversity of voices throughout history and cultures. We prepare students for creative practice now and into the future: artists who are global citizens equipped for the changing professions of the twenty-first century. As an artistic community of students, faculty, and staff, we seek to increase awareness of civic responsibility and promote a culture of compassion through the intersection of faith and learning.

Our Vision: Devoted to the discovery and sharing of wisdom and knowledge, education serves humanity and the well-being of all. As the School of Music, Art, and Theatre, we imagine and create our programs in the richness of community. Committing to the highest standards of excellence in the

fields of music, art, theatre, and education, we the community of students, faculty, and staff contribute to the integration of the arts and life within self, the North Park campus, the city of Chicago, and the world. We explore and hone personal aesthetic within the dialogue between culture and human values. We guide and encourage students in the journey toward a sustainable creative practice; one that can move beyond North Park University to benefit humanity.

Our diversities enhance and strengthen the artistic, spiritual, and intellectual work of learning, teaching, and sharing. Diversity itself is essential for excellence and achievement and we intentionally commit to exposing ourselves to other perspectives and cultures to ensure that our opinions, viewpoints, and judgments are continuously challenged and enable understandings across differences. We celebrate our vocations in and through a multiplicity of cultures and communities locally and globally. We know that embracing, advancing, and valuing diversity everywhere will make us all the more successful. As a Christian institution, we strive to celebrate the rich diversity of cultures, races and ethnicities, genders, political and religious beliefs, physical and learning differences, sexual orientations, and identities that make up our campus community. All members of our School belong to our community and are equally supported regardless of background, identity, or affiliation.

Position Summary:

The School of Music, Art, and Theatre housed within the College of Arts and Sciences at North Park University seeks a full-time tenure track appointment in Art. The candidate reporting to the Art Department Chair will carry a full load which includes responsibilities as an undergraduate instructor in Art as well as Gallery Director.

Primary Responsibilities:

Professor of Art

- Instruct Junior Seminar course
- Instruct or co-instruct Senior Seminar course
- Additional courses in areas of expertise, as needed

Gallery Director

The Gallery Director provides vision to the exhibition program and works collaboratively with Art Department faculty to develop a program of exhibitions that enhances the department's profile, supports curriculum, and increases professional engagement. Works should represent a variety of media. The Carlson Tower Gallery is the primary exhibition space on North Park University's campus. Additional spaces may be used on occasion.

- Organize annual series of exhibitions in alignment with the mission and vision of the school. Exhibitions feature student, faculty, and alumni artwork, including coordination of faculty exhibitions, alumni exhibitions, group junior group exhibition, and solo senior end of year exhibitions the gallery
- Maintain relationships with local, state, national and international artists, and art organizations to support gallery program and pursue exhibition opportunities

- Facilitate outreach to various departments across campus to explore collaborative opportunities
- Develop an annual artist lecture series to support gallery programming
- Oversee student employees who support gallery operations
- Collaborate and coordinate with the SMAT Events and Communications Manager to maintain promotion strategies and appropriate documentation for each exhibition.
- Manage the exhibition budget
- Review and develop guidelines for acquisition and display of art objects across campus, as needed

Additional responsibilities may include recruitment, advising and mentoring undergraduate students, committee work, implementation of a scholarly agenda, and participation in university wide service. Salary and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Required Qualifications:

- Master of Fine Arts degree required
- College-level teaching experience
- Experience with curating exhibitions

Additional Qualifications:

- Strong and collaborative leadership and administrative skills
- Experience using innovative pedagogical approaches
- Proven success in classroom, gallery, and exhibition settings
- Evidence of active professional practice
- Evidence of industry relationships
- Commitment to undergraduate education
- Possess a clear understanding of and personal commitment to North Park University's mission of Christian higher education and intercultural values.

Application Instructions:

To be considered for this position, please email the following items to Maya Durham Rayner, Art Department Chair at mcraayner@northpark.edu.

1. A written statement that describes your understanding, experience, and commitment to North Park's three core identities--Christian, city-centered, and intercultural—as well as your faith journey and how it aligns with the mission and values of the University.
2. Three references with contact information. References will not be contacted without permission.
3. Cover Letter
4. Resume
5. Links to samples of curatorial and scholarly work.

The search committee reserves the right to request additional information as needed.

Effective Date: August 2023 (Nine-month position)