

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

March 23, 2023

SEATTLE – The Seattle Art Museum and SAM VSO Union bargaining teams met Tuesday for our tenth collective bargaining session. It was our second meeting of 2023 after earlier sessions were rescheduled due to illness.

We are excited to share that we reached three new tentative agreements (TAs) in this week's session. That brings the total number of TAs to 17 in just 10 sessions. Tuesday's TAs include contract provisions regarding:

- Union stewards
- Role of union stewards in investigatory and grievance process
- Fitness for duty

In addition to reaching three TAs, both bargaining teams continued to engage in productive and extensive conversation about key outstanding elements of the contract including holidays, performance review and uniform policy. The SAM bargaining team provided prompt responses on several topics that reflect and respect the priorities of the Union members.

Tuesday's session also included a representative from Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services (FMCS) who joined as an observer at the request of both bargaining teams. The FMCS representative met with both teams separately and observed the morning session. She noted that negotiations are moving forward in a productive and timely manner, complimenting both teams for their efforts.

This meaningful progress is a direct result of the trust and respect both teams have shared throughout this process, and we are encouraged by the positive momentum this latest session reflects.

Four additional bargaining sessions have been scheduled in April and May, with our next session on April 4. We will provide an update following that meeting.

### **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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