

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

December 21, 2022

SEATTLE – On Monday, December 19 the Seattle Art Museum bargaining team met with representatives from the SAM VSO Union for our eighth collective bargaining session, and the last meeting of 2022.

The VSO Union and SAM bargaining teams began collective bargaining in August and have made tremendous progress on important issues. To date, 44 proposals have been shared on matters that will serve as the cornerstone of a new contract for VSO Union-represented staff. We reached three new tentative agreements (TAs) yesterday after we accepted the Union's most recent proposals for those issues. Yesterday's agreements pertain to:

- Workplace health and safety
- Job elimination, furlough and reduction in force
- Union business agent access

That brings our total number of TAs for the year to 14.

We appreciate the extent to which both parties have achieved common ground over the first eight sessions, and continue to value everyone's commitment to constructive bargaining. We are especially thankful to the Union representatives for ensuring the proposal review process includes input from their membership at-large.

Looking ahead to next year, we are scheduled to meet next on January 9 and February 7. The SAM bargaining team proposed three additional dates in February and March, which the VSO Union has tentatively accepted. We look forward to continuing our productive discussions in the new year and building on the progress made to date.

### **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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