

Seeking Inuit Co-Curator
The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, Bowdoin College

In the spring of 2023, the Arctic Museum will open inaugural exhibitions in our new home, the John and Lile Gibbons [Center for Arctic Studies](#) on the Bowdoin College campus in Brunswick, Maine. One of the new temporary exhibits planned for this new facility will feature contemporary Inuit photography. The exhibit will be installed in approximately 100 running feet of gallery space.

Contract Position: The museum seeks a co-curator who will work with museum staff to identify the images to be featured in the contemporary Inuit photography exhibit, work with designers, write exhibit text, and create outreach materials.

In consultation with museum staff, the co-curator will have a budget of \$10,000 to purchase contemporary photographs by Inuit photographers for use in the exhibit and inclusion in the museum's permanent collection. The co-curator and museum staff will initiate loan requests for any additional photographs featured in the exhibit, with those costs covered by the museum.

Location: Ideally the co-curator will periodically visit the campus to consult with the museum staff and design team, but remote work is expected.

Time frame: We anticipate most of the work will take place between January and August 2022 and in the spring of 2023 when the exhibit will be installed in the gallery space and the facility officially opened.

Payment: A contract of \$30,000; the museum will cover campus visit travel expenses.

Qualifications: Knowledge of contemporary Inuit photography, curatorial experience desirable but not required.

Museum background: The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum cares for a diverse collection of historically and ethnographically important materials from Greenland, the Canadian Arctic, and Alaska. The core of the collection includes 1000s of historic photographs, most taken by Arctic explorer and educator Donald B. MacMillan between 1908 and 1954. They are supplemented by associated historic and ethnographic objects and journals, making this a comprehensive collection that documents the history of American exploration, early scientific research, and the lives of Inuit families who worked with Robert E. Peary and Donald MacMillan. The collection has grown in the last thirty years and now includes additional photographic and ethnographic collections, as well as contemporary Inuit art and craftwork from Alaska and Canada.

The museum's rich photographic collection is a valuable record of an important period of change in the Arctic, but is entirely the work of white, Western, male expedition members. The opening of the new museum is an opportune time to broaden the scope of the collection to include works by a range of northern Indigenous photographers. In addition, the museum seeks

to diversify the field of museology and help advance the careers of Inuit photographers and curators. This initiative is a step in those directions.

Application: Applicants should email a cover letter that explains their background and interest in the position, along with a resume and the names and email addresses of three references to:

Susan A. Kaplan, skaplan@bowdoin.edu

For additional information about the museum, please visit the [Arctic Museum's website](#). Questions about the position should be directed to Susan A Kaplan, skaplan@bowdoin.edu or Genevieve Lemoine, glemoine@bowdoin.edu