

Why Study Museum and Exhibition Studies at UIC?

An Interdisciplinary
Program with a Social
Justice Focus

University of Illinois
at Chicago

The Art History Department of the University of Illinois at Chicago offers a Master of Arts in Museum and Exhibition Studies—MUSE. MUSE is an interdisciplinary program with a social justice focus. It emphasizes the evolving social and political contexts of today's cultural institutions and provides students with the experience necessary to thrive in a multitude of positions, including as curators and exhibit developers, gallery directors, museum educators, and social media influencers.

Past and present places of employment for MUSE alumni include:

Women's Board Education Fellow, the Art Institute of Chicago; Community Engagement and Programming Coordinator, Rebuild Foundation; Visitor Service Engagement Representative, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; Project Manager for Marketing & Development, Adler Planetarium; Research Assistant, MIR Appraisal Services; Botany Contractor, Smithsonian Institution, Museum of Natural History; Collections Assistant, The Field Museum of Natural History; Academic Operations Facilities Specialist, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design; Invertebrate Zoology Contractor Smithsonian Institution, Museum of Natural History; Associate Registrar, John Michael Kohler Arts Center.

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/uic_masters_muse](http://artandarthistory.uic.edu/uic_masters_muse)

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Full-time resident students take five core courses that focus on exhibition-making, collections, writing for exhibitions, strategies for public engagement, and museum genres and histories; select five elective courses that support their interests; participate in a supervised internship; and complete a capstone activity (thesis or project) during the two-year program. MUSE uses Chicago's many museums and cultural spaces as classrooms. UIC's Jane Addams Hull-House Museum and Gallery 400 serve as the program's teaching partners and support in-depth research and practice opportunities.

Selected Capstone Titles:

Sandy Guttman (2016)	Making Space For Change: Fostering Public Engagement In Disability Arts and Culture at UIC
Alice Kovacik (2016)	Through Story: A Guide to Oral History for Community Organizations
Mariam Usmani (2016)	Representations of the Body in Pain: Antiquities, the Enlightenment, and the Pageantry of Museums
Adriana Solís Martínez (2016)	Temporary Interventions on Campus for Sustainability Awareness
Demecina Beehn (2015)	Engaging Detroit - The Detroit Institute of Arts and the African American Community
Matthew Heichelbech (2015)	Institutionalized Community Archives: Understanding a Community's Relationship with Its Collected History
Jamie Lewis (2015)	Reinterpreting Ethnographic Collections: Online Community Curation of the Philippine Collection at The Field Museum