

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

<b>Job Title:</b>	Objects Conservator
<b>Location:</b>	Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
<b>Terms:</b>	Full time, 2 year maximum term contract
<b>Package:</b>	\$90,000 per annum plus 11% superannuation
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Senior Conservator

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) is the Northern Territory's premier cultural and scientific institution. It offers a dynamic and diverse arts, science and cultural program to more than 300,000 visitors each year.

We are the museum and gallery known for our collections and expertise in Aboriginal cultures, natural sciences, histories and arts across Northern and Central Australia and our neighbours to the north.

We connect people to the stories of the Northern Territory. Our collection drives curiosity, exploration and partnerships. Our physical spaces are destinations loved by locals and a must-see for Territory visitors. Our digital connectivity expands the reach of our collection. Our guests tell their friends about their distinctive Territory experience.

MAGNT has seven venues: MAGNT Darwin (Bullocky Point), the Defence of Darwin Experience, Fannie Bay Gaol, Lyons Cottage, the Museum of Central Australia (incorporating the Strehlow Research Centre), Megafauna Central and the Alcoota fossil site. A new Art Gallery opening in Darwin's CBD in late 2025 will add an eighth MAGNT site.

## **Primary Objective**

The Conservation team is responsible for the continual care and conservation management of MAGNT's History, Culture and Art Collection in accordance with legislative obligations, institutional objectives and in line with National Museum Standards and the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials Code of Ethics and Code of Practice. The team has responsibility for ensuring the preservation, maintenance, conservation, storage and protection of the collection.

The Conservator will be responsible for ensuring best practice long-term collection care to optimise protection of the Collection on display and in storage including day-to-day preventative conservation tasks. The role will involve conservation documentation of a broad range of material types and specifically involve the conservation of objects-based works of art, their preparation for display, storage and loan, as well as contributing to the maintenance of complex works on display. It will provide advice and expertise in regards to all issues of conservation while working collaboratively with the Senior Conservator, other team members and the Collections Management team.

## **Key Responsibilities**

1. Provide specialist conservation services, advice and expertise on all issues relating to conservation including museum climatology, disaster planning and recovery, collection management, environmental monitoring, integrated pest management, collection handling, storage and display.
2. Prepare works of art for display and serve as a member of exhibition teams, including planning and installation.
3. Undertake established basic and intermediate level conservation treatments, both preventive and interventive.

4. In collaboration with the conservation and collections management staff provide specialist input to the development and implementation of conservation procedures and programs in accordance with the aims, objectives and functions of MAGNT.
5. Create and maintain accurate records of object conservation and undertake data entry using MAGNT's collections management system (EMu).
6. Prepare collections material to ensure the effective care, packing and handling of the Collection material for safe storage access requests, exhibition purposes and transport.
7. Assess the conservation and preservation needs of the Collection, monitor environmental conditions, support the implementation of an integrated pest management program in the storage and exhibition areas and undertake regular inspections and maintenance.
8. Contribute to operational planning processes, policy development and risk management procedures for the safe storage, logistics and display of collection material working within approved plans, budget and quality standards.
9. Other duties as required with respect to the scope of the position.

### **Selection Criteria**

#### **Essential**

1. Tertiary qualifications in Objects Conservation, and a minimum of 3 years' experience in the conservation of cultural materials from multi-disciplinary heritage collections in a museum or art gallery environment
2. High level knowledge of both national and international current conservation principles, ethics and practices as identified in the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials Code of Ethics and its international counterparts and relevant to collections and displays.
3. Demonstrated experience in assessing the conservation and preservation needs of multidisciplinary heritage collections and the safe handling, rehousing and packing procedures, of cultural material in a variety of media.
4. Evidence of preparation of works of art and objects for display to a high standard.
5. Strong organisational skills to self-manage workload across concurrent projects, prioritising and completing tasks within scheduled timeframes.
6. Experience in the use of Collections Management Systems to document processes accurately and maintain physical and electronic records relevant to the management and care of collections and exhibitions.
7. Proven ability to work efficiently and harmoniously in a multi-disciplinary team with a range of professional, technical and administrative staff to achieve agreed objectives and performance criteria and provide support and collaborate with team members and key stakeholders on complex projects.
8. Well-developed communication and interpersonal skills at institutional, government and community levels, including a demonstrated ability to prepare high quality documentation and reports, and responding to internal and external enquiries.
9. Understanding and knowledge of WHS standards and the implementation in relation to safe practices for the movement, location and storage of collections, lifting and carrying objects, climbing ladders and use of tools.

#### **Desirable**

1. Membership of the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials (AICCM).
2. Experience working with culturally sensitive material.

3. Experience with EMu collection management software desirable.

**Other relevant information**

1. This role statement is intended to provide an overall view of the role but in addition to this document, the specifics of the role will be described in business work plans.
2. MAGNT is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in the workplace.
3. Preferential consideration will be given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants who meet the essential selection criteria.
4. MAGNT promotes flexible ways of working. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the flexible working arrangements for this role.
5. Applicants must have full Australian work rights.
6. A valid Australian Drivers licence is required.
7. A current Australian National Police check is required prior to commencing the position.

**Further information**

For further information please visit our website at [magnt.net.au](http://magnt.net.au) or contact the Assistant Director, Content and Innovation, Louise Partos on (08) 8999 8216 or [louise.partos@magnt.net.au](mailto:louise.partos@magnt.net.au).