

**Labor Market Analysis: 1099.00 – Other Fine Arts and Applied Arts
Exhibition Concept, Design, and Production – Certificate requiring 16 to
fewer than 30 semester units
Los Angeles Center of Excellence, June 2024**

Program Endorsement:	Endorsed: All Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program Endorsement Criteria			
Supply Gap:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25th)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SUMMARY

This report analyzes whether local labor market demand is being met by community college programs aligned with the identified middle-skill occupations¹ or whether a shortage of workers exists. Labor market demand is measured by annual job openings while education supply is measured by the number of awards (degrees and certificates) conferred on average each year.

Based on the available data, there appears to be a supply gap for the two identified middle-skill occupations in the region. Furthermore, entry-level wages exceed the self-sufficiency standard wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties, and more than one-third of current set and exhibit designers, the occupation in this report with the majority of annual openings, have an associate degree or less education as their highest educational attainment.

Recommendation: Due to all three program endorsement criteria being met, the Los Angeles Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA COE) endorses this proposed program.

Key Findings

Supply Gap

- 380 annual job openings are projected in the region through 2027. This number is greater than the three-year average of 207 awards conferred by educational institutions in the region.

¹ Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor's degree. The COE classifies middle-skill jobs as the following:

- All occupations that require an educational requirement of some college, associate degree or apprenticeship;
- All occupations that require a bachelor's degree, but also have more than one-third of their existing labor force with an educational attainment of some college or associate degree; or
- All occupations that require a high school diploma or equivalent or no formal education, but also require short- to long-term on-the-job training where multiple community colleges have existing programs.

Living Wage

- Both occupations have entry-level wages **above** Los Angeles County's self-sufficiency standard hourly wage (\$18.10/hour).²

Educational Attainment

- A bachelor's degree is the typical entry-level education for these middle-skill exhibition design occupations, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).
- The national-level data indicates 38% of current set and exhibit designers, the occupation in this report with the most annual openings, have completed an associate degree or less education as their highest level of educational attainment.
 - 20% of museum technicians and conservators have an associate degree or less education, while 80% hold a bachelor's degree or more education.

Community college supply

- 5 community colleges issued awards related to exhibition design and production in the greater LA/OC region.
- 31 awards (degrees and certificates) were conferred on average each year between 2020 and 2023.

Other postsecondary supply

- 10 educational institutions in the LA/OC region conferred awards related to exhibition design and production in the past three years.
- 176 awards were conferred on average each year by other postsecondary institutions throughout the greater LA/OC region.

TARGET OCCUPATIONS

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market and postsecondary supply data related to two middle-skill occupations. Although the occupations in this report typically require a bachelor's degree, they are included because a) approximately one-third of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree, and b) these two occupations are the best fit, considering the knowledge, skills and abilities that this program is training for. [For full occupation descriptions, please see Appendix.](#)

- **Museum Technicians and Conservators (25-4013)**³
- **Set and Exhibit Designers (27-1027)**⁴

OCCUPATIONAL DEMAND

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for these middle-skill exhibition design occupations. In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to increase by 2% through 2027. There will be nearly 400 job openings per year through 2027 due to job growth and replacements. The majority of jobs in

² Self-Sufficiency Standard wage data was pulled from The Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool for California. For more information, visit: <http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/california>.

³ [Museum Technicians and Conservators \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁴ [Set and Exhibit Designers \(bls.gov\)](#)

2022 for these middle-skill exhibition design occupations (86%) were located in Los Angeles County.

Exhibit 1: Current employment and occupational demand, Los Angeles and Orange counties⁵

Geography	2022 Jobs	2027 Jobs	2022-2027 Change	2022-2027 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	2,990	2,952	(38)	(1%)	303
Orange	467	586	119	26%	77
Total	3,457	3,538	81	2%	380

Detailed Occupation Data

Exhibit 2 displays the current employment and projected occupational demand for each of the target occupations in Los Angeles County. The percentage of workers aged 55+ is included in order to visualize upcoming replacement demand for these occupations. These occupations have a lower-than-average risk of automation, as well as a higher-than-average share of older workers in the field.

Exhibit 2: Current employment, projected occupational demand, percentage of workers aged 55+, Los Angeles County⁶

Occupation	2022 Jobs	2027 Jobs	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	% Aged 55 and older*	Auto-mation Index	% Full Time Workers
Museum Technicians and Conservators	492	641	30%	100	32%	98.7	100%
Set and Exhibit Designers	2,499	2,312	(7%)	203	29%	89.0	Data unavail.
	2,990	2,952	(1%)	303	-	-	-

*The average percentage of workers aged 55 and older across all occupations in the greater LA/OC region is 27%. These occupations have a larger share of older workers, which typically indicates greater replacements needs to offset the amount of impending retirements.

WAGES

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for these middle-skill exhibition design occupations in Los Angeles County as they relate to the county's self-sufficiency standard wage. Orange County wages are included below in order to provide a complete analysis of the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

⁵ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

⁶ Ibid.

Los Angeles County

Both occupations have entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County). Typical entry-level hourly wages are in a range between \$23.58 and \$28.33. (Exhibit 3). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$32.93 and \$54.41.

Exhibit 3: Earnings for occupations in Los Angeles County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Museum Technicians and Conservators	\$23.58	\$30.53	\$32.93	\$63,500
Set and Exhibit Designers	\$28.33	\$40.18	\$54.41	\$83,600

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Orange County

Both occupations have entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$20.63 in Orange County). Typical entry-level hourly wages are in a range between \$20.75 and \$25.87 (Exhibit 4). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$29.21 and \$48.06.

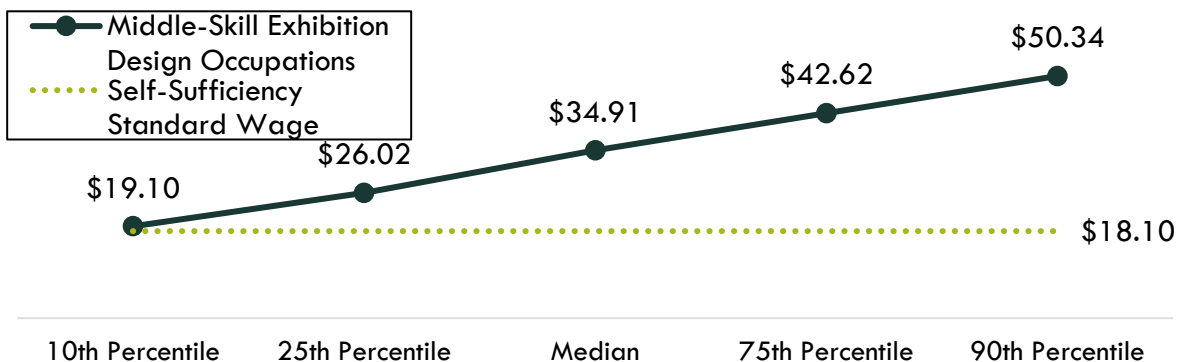
Exhibit 4: Earnings for occupations in Orange County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Museum Technicians and Conservators	\$20.75	\$26.86	\$29.21	\$55,900
Set and Exhibit Designers	\$25.87	\$34.76	\$48.06	\$72,300

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Across the greater Los Angeles and Orange County region, the average entry-level hourly earnings for the occupations in this report are \$26.02; this is above the living wage for one single adult in Los Angeles County (\$18.10). Exhibit 5 shows the average hourly wage for the occupations in this report, for entry-level to experienced workers.

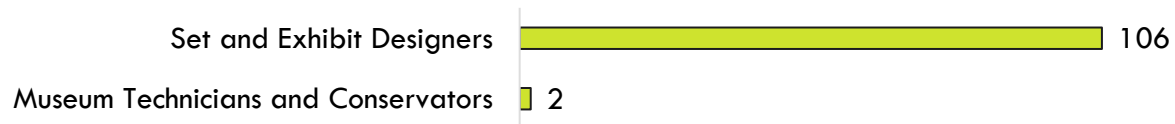
Exhibit 5: Average hourly earnings for middle-skill exhibition design occupations, Los Angeles and Orange counties



JOB POSTINGS

There were 108 online middle-skill job postings related to exhibition design listed in the past 12 months in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Exhibit 6 displays the number of job postings by occupation. The majority of job postings (98%) were for set and exhibit designers, followed by museum technicians and conservators (2%).

Exhibit 6: Job postings by occupation (last 12 months), Los Angeles and Orange counties



Job postings were analyzed for the most common job titles, skills, and employers associated with the target occupations in this report (Exhibit 7).

Exhibit 7: Most commonly requested job titles, skills and employers in job postings, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Top Job Titles	Top Skills	Top Employers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show set designers • Exhibit designers • Exhibition designers • Exhibitions coordinators • Exhibit specialists • Museum technicians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibitions • AutoCAD • Painting • Workflow management • Exhibit design • Project management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OC Fair & Event Center • Disney • Wen Global Solutions • California Science Center • Museum of Ice Cream

In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, 44% of the middle-skill exhibition design job postings listed a minimum educational requirement. The number and percentage of job postings by educational level appear in exhibit 8.

Exhibit 8: Education levels requested in job postings for middle-skill exhibition design occupations, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Education Level	Job Postings	% of Job Postings
Bachelor's degree	41	87%
Associate degree	2	4%
High school diploma or vocational training	4	9%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a bachelor's degree as the typical entry-level education for both occupations in this report (Exhibit 9). The national-level data indicates 38% of current set

and exhibit designers, the occupation in this report with the most annual openings, have completed an associate degree or less education as their highest level of educational attainment. It is worth noting that only 20% of museum technicians and conservators have an associate degree or less education, while 80% hold a bachelor's degree or more education. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists the following typical entry-level education levels for the occupations in this report:

Exhibit 9: Entry-level education preferred by employers nationally, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Occupation	Education Level
Museum technicians and conservators	Bachelor's degree
Set and exhibit designers	Bachelor's degree

EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY

Community College Supply

Exhibit 10 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP codes: Applied Design (1009.00) and Other Fine and Applied Arts (1099.00). The colleges with the most completions in the region are Santa Monica and El Camino. Two programs in the region have conferred awards recently for exhibition-related applied arts programs: East LA (Museum Studies – certificate) and El Camino (Gallery Management – certificate), denoted in exhibit 10 by an asterisk. Fullerton College offers a Museum Assistant certificate; however, they have not conferred awards for this program in the last three years.

Exhibit 10: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2020-2023

TOP Code	Program	College	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	2022-23 Awards	3-Year Average
1009.00	Applied Design	Orange Coast	1	-	-	0
		OC Subtotal	1	-	-	0
Supply Subtotal/Average			1	-	-	0
1099.00	Other Fine and Applied Arts	East LA*	-	2	2	1
		El Camino*	4	2	6	4
		Long Beach	-	-	2	1
		Santa Monica	26	21	27	25
		LA Subtotal	30	25	37	31
Supply Subtotal/Average			30	25	37	31
Supply Total/Average			31	25	37	31

*Denotes programs related to exhibition design

Other Postsecondary Supply

For a comprehensive regional supply analysis, it is important to consider the supply from other institutions in the region that provide training programs for middle-skill exhibition design occupations. Exhibit 11 shows the number of awards conferred by these institutions in relevant

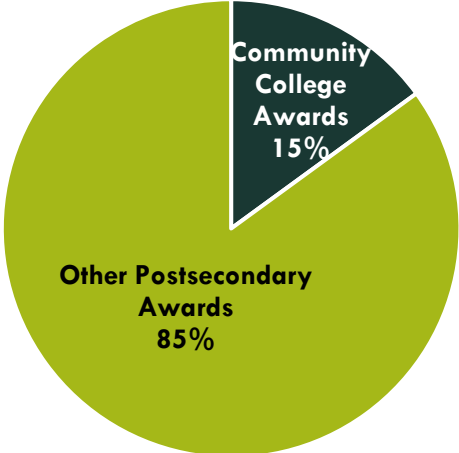
programs. Due to different data collection periods, the most recent data is from 2019 to 2022. Between 2019 and 2022, other postsecondary college institutions in the region conferred an average of 176 bachelor's and sub-baccalaureate awards. Bachelor's awards are included, since the occupations in this report typically require a bachelor's degree. Sub-baccalaureate awards include associate degrees, postsecondary awards, and other academic awards that typically take fewer than four years to complete. Of the postsecondary awards listed in exhibit 11, 62% are associate degrees or certificates, and 38% are bachelor's degrees.

Exhibit 11: Other regional postsecondary awards, 2019-2022

CIP Code	Program	Postsecondary Institution	2019-20 Awards	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	3-Year Average
50.0401	Design and Visual Communications, General	Azusa Pacific Univ.	-	-	12	4
		Biola University	3	9	9	7
		Columbia College Hollywood	-	7	1	3
		Fashion Institute of Design & Merch.	90	69	57	72
		Gnomon	19	42	31	31
		LA Pacific College	13	1	1	5
		Otis College of Art and Design	36	30	39	35
		UCLA	-	-	1	0
		USC	5	22	29	19
50.1002	Fine and Studio Arts Management	Pitzer College	1	-	-	0
50.9999	Visual and Performing Arts, Other	Pitzer College	-	-	1	0
Supply Total/Average			167	180	181	176

Exhibit 12 shows the proportion of community college awards conferred in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region compared to the number of other postsecondary awards for the programs in this report. The majority of awards conferred in these programs are awarded by other institutions in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

Exhibit 12: Percentage of community college awards compared to other postsecondary institution awards in the Los Angeles/Orange County region



APPENDIX: OCCUPATION DESCRIPTIONS

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to these target occupations:

- **Museum Technicians and Conservators (25-4013)** Restore, maintain, or prepare objects in museum collections for storage, research, or exhibit. May work with specimens such as fossils, skeletal parts, or botanicals; or artifacts, textiles, or art. May identify and record objects or install and arrange them in exhibits. Includes book or document conservators.⁷
- **Set and Exhibit Designers (27-1027)** Design special exhibits and sets for film, video, television, and theater productions. May study scripts, confer with directors, and conduct research to determine appropriate architectural styles.⁸

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DATA SOURCES

- O*NET Online
- Lightcast (formerly Emsi)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- Self-Sufficiency Standard at the Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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⁷ [Museum Technicians and Conservators \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov)

⁸ [Set and Exhibit Designers \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov)