

APPLICATION ACTIVITY: Art of the Pacific at LACMA and The Met

You are a curator at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and your area of expertise is Oceanic Art, especially the art of Micronesia and Polynesia. Your primary responsibility is the care, presentation, interpretation, and acquisition of works of art in the collection. This means that a work of art under the curator's care, and works under consideration for acquisition, must be thoroughly researched in order to ensure their authenticity, quality, and historical importance. Acquisitions—whether through purchase, gift, or bequest—should be guided by the mission of the museum as well as by the curator's expertise. Therefore, curators, having specialized knowledge, should be involved in the decision to acquire a work and then in presenting the object to their museum's acquisition committee.

Recently, you have been told that you will be forming a partnership with The Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC, which includes the exchange of artworks. You have been asked to choose 2 artworks from the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collection from Micronesia and Polynesia to bring to LACMA. You can view their collection by searching the collection: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search?department=5#> and using the filters. You can also explore the overview of the collection here: <https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met/curatorial-departments/art-of-africa-oceania-and-the-americas>

You will also need to examine what LACMA already has in its collection of “Art of the Pacific.” You don't want to duplicate objects or themes.

[https://collections.lacma.org/search/site/?front=1&f\[0\]=bm_field_has_image%3Atrue&f\[1\]=im_field_curatorial_area%3A35](https://collections.lacma.org/search/site/?front=1&f[0]=bm_field_has_image%3Atrue&f[1]=im_field_curatorial_area%3A35)

Using your expertise, you will need to make a pitch to the museum board about why LACMA should bring these 2 objects from The Met as part of this new partnership.

Make your case for the 2 objects. Create a forum post under “Oceania Museum Partnership Activity” forum topic. Then enter a descriptive title for your new post, and then type a post of at least 150 words that does the following:

1. List your 2 chosen objects and include direct links to the object's webpage on the museum's website (get to each object's individual webpage by clicking on the image of the object);
2. Describe why you think these 2 objects would add to LACMA's collection.

Step 5. Please also comment on at least 2 other students' entries.