

## **Equality and Diversity Certification for Art Institutions**

### **released by ODBK**

*“According to a 2019 study of the permanent collections of 18 large art museums in the U.S., 87% of the over 10 000 featured artists are male, and 85% white” (Diversity of Artists in Major U.S. Museums, Public Library of Science)*

**Berlin, Germany Monday January 4, 2021-** In recent years, art institutions worldwide have been moving toward diversifying their exhibitions and permanent collection to remediate the historic underrepresentation of non-male and non-white in the curations. However, recent studies show that (American) museums still have a long way to go in diversifying their exhibitions and collections, as they keep excluding people of color, people with disabilities, QTIBPOC\* +, woman, LGBTIQA+ people,... from their spaces.

The Organization for the Democratization of the Visual Arts (ODBK), e.V. has officially launched an Equality and Diversity Certification for Art Institutions on Monday January 4, 2021.

This Equality and Diversity Certification, initiated and operated by ODBK, publicly recognizes those arts organizations demonstrating a history of, and commitment to, voluntarily making the art world more equal, diverse and democratic. The objectives of this program are many: create a mechanism that ensures an art world where artists, as well the artistic work, are adequately represented; build the bases for the curatorial work and collection practices of art institutions, that ensures the equality and diversity in the selection of the artists, as well as in the artworks; and finally, promote and motivate the art institutions to create a continuous and open perception and strong embracement of a more diverse kind of artists and artworks.

The evaluation of the art institution consists of an examination of statistical parameters of the artists and artworks exhibited and collected within the art institution, as well as the curatorial and collection processes and practices. The results of the criterias will enable the decision of which of the three levels does the art institution belong to; the first level consisting the highest level. The evaluation process will be carried out by a jury, including two team members of the ODBK and specialists on the questions of equality and diversity in the field of art.

For more information about the Certification and the Evaluators, visit:

<https://www.odbk.tk/equalityand-diversity-certification-for-art-institutions/>

Founded in 2017 by the new media artist and activist David Hinojosa Admann, ODBK is an activist organization based in Berlin, Germany that aims to create a more equal, diverse and democratic art world. By using alternative economic systems, democracy,

participative models like PARECON ( participatory economics) , demarchy and referendums, ODBK builds both offline and online mechanisms to diversify and increase the number of active participants in the decision making which defines the current and future art world.

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