



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

CITY COUNCIL

Isaiah Thomas
Council Member, At-Large
City Hall, Room 330
Philadelphia, PA 19107

March 2, 2022

Leslie Ann Miller, Chair
Philadelphia Museum of Art

Dear Chair Miller,

I am aware that the Philadelphia Museum of Art management and the members of AFSCME District Council 47, Local 397 have been in contract negotiations for well over a year. All workers deserve the respect and dignity demonstrated by fair wages, affordable health care, a safe workplace, and job security. The recent move by management to raise the minimum wage at the museum to \$15 an hour is a welcome change, but long overdue. Much more needs to be done and should be done without further delay.

Many jobs at the museum are low paying and have little, if any, stability. Affordable and high-quality health care is out of reach for many of your employees and their families. A world-class institution such as the Philadelphia Museum of Art can do better, and I urge management to work with the Union to improve wages and benefits and provide more permanent, secure, and stable jobs. All workplaces need to be safe, and workers need to be protected, especially from all forms of harassment. These basic protections should be in all collectively bargained contracts.

It is my hope that the involved parties pursue an equitable resolution in an expedited manner. It is time to finish negotiations and get back to focusing on your service to the Philadelphia community and the mission of the museum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isaiah Thomas'.

Council Member Isaiah Thomas
Philadelphia City Council, At- Large