



macLYON

The City of Lyon, a city of 510,000 inhabitants with an annual budget of €800 million and a municipal administration of nearly 8,500 employees, is internationally recognized for its vibrant cultural life and commitment to artistic creation.

The General Delegation for Culture, Heritage and Events contributes to making Lyon a creative and dynamic city through the work of leading cultural institutions, support for all forms of artistic creation, and the organization of numerous major events.

The City of Lyon is recruiting its Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art (macLYON)

and

La Biennale de Lyon is recruiting its Artistic director for the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art

Main Responsibilities – City of Lyon / macLYON

Reporting to the Deputy General Directorate for Culture and Heritage, and under the supervision of the Museum Division bringing together the Museum of Fine Arts and MAC Lyon, **the Director** will oversee the general management of the Museum of Contemporary Art and lead the museum's Scientific and Cultural Project.

macLYON operates with an annual budget of €1.2 million (excluding payroll), a team of 59 staff members, and welcomes approximately 150,000 visitors each year. The Director will oversee the development, conservation, management, and enhancement of the collections in accordance with the standards attached to the "Musée de France" designation.

The Director will:

- Lead an ambitious artistic policy focused on research, exhibitions, public engagement, and cultural programming;
- Strengthen the museum's national and international profile;
- Develop partnerships with artists, collectors, galleries, foundations, schools, museums, and cultural institutions;
- Encourage emerging artistic practices and support young artists;
- Promote contemporary art in public spaces;

- Oversee administrative, financial, and communication strategies;
- Develop sponsorship and fundraising initiatives;
- Manage and support a multidisciplinary team of approximately fifty employees.

Artistic Direction – Lyon Biennale of Contemporary art

In addition to the museum responsibilities, the successful candidate will also serve as Artistic Director of the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, within the framework of the partnership between maLYON, La Biennale de Lyon association, and public authorities.

Founded in 1991, La Biennale de Lyon organizes two major international cultural events in alternation: the Contemporary Art Biennale and the Biennale de la danse. The Biennale of Contemporary Art includes:

- an international exhibition;
- “Biennale en territoires,” a production and outreach programme developed with local territories and artists;
- “Résonance,” a platform showcasing regional cultural actors across Lyon and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region;
- several associated exhibitions.

The Artistic Director will:

- Design and implement the Biennale’s artistic and cultural vision;
- Propose the programming independently, with a medium- and long-term perspective;
- Select and supervise guest curators;
- Oversee the Biennale of Contemporary Art production department;
- Participate in sponsorship development and fundraising activities related to artistic programming;
- Work closely with all Biennale departments on communication, audience engagement, venue selection, and technical implementation;
- Ensure the technical and financial feasibility of the approved artistic project.

Profile & Skills

Candidates should demonstrate:

- Significant experience in a comparable leadership position;
- Excellent knowledge of the contemporary art ecosystem and professional networks;
- Strong management and organizational skills;
- Good understanding of public institutions and local government operations;
- Commitment to public service values.

Applicants should ideally be a Heritage Curator (Conservateur du patrimoine) or hold an equivalent qualification recognized by the French Ministry of Culture.

Languages

Fluent spoken and written French is mandatory. Excellent command of English is also required.

Recruitment Process

Preferred start date: **4 January 2027**

Application deadline: **Monday 6 July 2026 (evening)**

Applications must include:

- CV
- Cover letter
- PDF format
- Documents must be submitted in French

Shortlisted candidates will be informed by 15 July 2026 and will be asked to prepare a detailed project proposal ahead of interviews scheduled for the second half of September 2026.

Contacts

Xavier FOURNEYRON

Deputy General Director – City of Lyon

xavier.fourneyron@mairie-lyon.fr

Cécile BOURGEAT

General Director – Biennale de Lyon

cbourgeat@labiennaledelyon.com

Applications should be sent to:

isabelle.sabben@mairie-lyon.fr