

Portfolio Requirements

Studio Art Concentration

The required portfolio should consist of work that best demonstrates the applicant's potential in the discipline of studio art. Because personal interviews are impossible during the review process, it is imperative that the following guidelines are carefully followed.

Portfolio Cases:

Only zippered vinyl or reinforced photographer's shipping cases or corrugated cardboard shipping boxes will be accepted (see illustration on Portfolio Submission Checklist). Portfolios may be purchased at most large art stores. Place your name and an "S" on outside of portfolio and shipping case.

Size:

Work must be a minimum of 8.5"x 11" and a maximum of 20" x 27". Items cannot be framed; you may affix cardboard corners to protect your work (available at art supply stores).

Include in your portfolio:

Portfolio Review Form and Portfolio Submission Checklist: Fill in completely.

One Page Statement (A single, typewritten page---600-word maximum):

In the context of your unique perspective as an artist, discuss your strategies for learning – i.e. how do you learn, what specific environment fosters your learning, what sources inform your artistic vision, and what role is art likely to play in your future?

Portfolio Content Sheet:

Use the sheet provided to list all of your entries including slides. Make a copy of the completed sheet and cut to make individual labels to attach to the back of individual pieces of artwork.

Ten (10) Examples of Your Artwork:

With the exception of the assigned project created specifically for our review, all of this art should have been completed during the last **three years**. At least one of the 2D works (B&W or Color) must demonstrate your skill in representational foreshortening and your use of light and shadow. It is our preference to see actual artwork; however, we will accept up to 50% of your work in duplicate form (slides, video, CD ROM, etc.) if the original cannot be provided.

Category I:

Two (2) two-dimensional Black and White Drawings: To be evaluated for freehand drawing skills, perspective, originality, and composition.

Category II:

Two (2) two dimensional Color Artworks (any 2D medium listed below): to be evaluated for color harmony, use of media, originality, and composition.

Category III (3D and oversized only may be entered in slide form. See slide info sheet):

Five (5) Additional Examples (any 2D or 3D medium listed below)

Include five additional works which you consider supportive of your application. Oversized or 3D works must be submitted in slide form (for any piece, no more than three views). This category will be evaluated for use of medium, originality, and composition.

Category IV:

One (1) Assigned Project

On a separate sheet is a description of the assigned project created by the Studio Portfolio Review Committee. Following the instructions, complete this project. Include your artwork in the portfolio in its original form (no slides). Be sure to include the Journal/Sketchbook described in the assigned project description.

Acceptable Media for Portfolio Entries:

For this portfolio submission, consider work in/on the following materials: canvas, clay, collage, digital, fiber, glass, metal, mixed media, mural, paint, paper, plaster, plastic, stone, video (not more than 5 minutes) or wood. Paint and other media must be dry, and all items must fit inside the portfolio case.

General Recommendations:

The portfolio should represent your technical skill and originality of ideas. Portfolios that include a diverse vocabulary of expression—variety of approaches, styles, media, processes, points of view, will be given greater weight. Avoid plagiarism and the use of photo sources not your own. Cartoons and artwork copied from others do not allow for a proper evaluation of your skill. If you are including any work that was collaborative, please indicate which work and what your role was. In preparing your slides for submission, see the enclosed instructions on the Slide Information sheet.

Studio Art Concentration Assigned Project

The Concept:

To create an artwork that considers art foundation principles including: idea development, design/ composition, technical skill, and a sense of finish. Think about doing a self-portrait where your image is not included. In this project, you need to visually communicate who you are without showing your face or body.

In the late 19th Century, Van Gogh and Gauguin were roommates. At one point in their relationship, Van Gogh created two paintings of Gauguin's chair and his own chair. The chairs used symbolic choices and lighting that revealed both artists' character without showing any image of either artist. In many ways the chairs, their environment, and the objects of the paintings combined to create a complete portrait.

In this exercise you will create a surrogate self-portrait. Like Van Gogh, your surrogate should be a stand-in that captures your character. Instead of drawing an image of yourself from a mirror, we would like you to draw or paint a 2D object, and an environment that could stand-in for 'you.' When someone who knows you sees this work, they should be able to tell that it represents your character. The research you should do for this project involves self-reflection.

The Artwork:

Create a 2D piece (drawing, painting, collage, low relief), which expresses your concept. The original work must be included in your portfolio. The minimum scale of this project is 16 x 20 inches. Your imagination, originality, and creativity will be evaluated in addition to the technical skill your artwork manifests. Finished artwork should be professionally presented with a mat or other appropriate support (no frames).

The Journal/Sketchbook for the Assigned Project:

Format: from 5x7 to 9x12 inches, spiral bound, with a minimum length of 10 pages.

This journal/sketchbook must include:

1. Your name on the cover.
2. Development material for the assigned project such as brainstorming ideas, thumbnail sketches, and resources.
3. A 200-word explanation of your assigned project solution.
4. Development sketches and support material for this project.

For questions on portfolio requirements, please refer to the "Portfolio Review Policy."

Slide Information Sheet

Studio Art Concentration

- **Slides must include your name, title of work, and entry number that corresponds with the number on the Portfolio Content Sheet.**
- **Indicate bottom left hand corner of slide with a red dot.**
- **On the Portfolio Content Sheet list the number, materials, and size of the work.**

No more than 50% of your work can be submitted in slide or duplicate form, however, the works that should be entered using 35 mm slides are:

1. 2D works that cannot fit in the portfolio case (see handout for size description).
2. 3D works – We are not able to properly handle shipped 3D work due to storage concerns. Therefore any 3D work such as sculpture, ceramics, glass, or metal must be submitted using 35 mm slides.

Note: The Assigned Project must be submitted in its original form. It must be created within the size format that will allow it to be sent in the portfolio, but no smaller than 16"x20" image size. Low relief projects could fit this criteria. No slides are allowed of this project.

Photographing oversized 2D work:

1. Place the work straight so that it does not tilt back. You may need to position work on an easel or some other support. The work can be hung on an exterior wall, which can be very successful, if the wall is a mid-value gray or tan. Avoid distracting settings. Make sure the camera lens is perpendicular to work. Focus on center of work and fill the frame. Take several shots at different exposures to make sure you get a good one.
2. Outdoors: Shoot in open shade between 10 and 3, which gives the truest color rendition. Do not use flash or any other additional light sources.
3. Indoors: Place two light sources at even distances so light does not reflect and is spread evenly on the work. Two blue photofloods are best. Two flash units synchronized can serve. Do not use ordinary household bulbs, as they will distort color. Avoid reflections.
4. Camera: 35mm camera set on manual, 50 mm lens
5. Film: check with your camera store for appropriate film for your type of shoot.
6. Include a detail shot, if appropriate, to show surface quality and/or intricate area.

Photographing 3D work:

1. The work should be photographed from three views including front, back, and a third angle that best helps to describe the piece.
2. Make sure that the background is as simple as possible. Seamless paper or an ironed sheet can be used. Anchor material at top and allow it to drape down across the table top. This ensures a smooth background with no hard edge horizon line at the back edge. This stand can be used indoors or outdoors.
3. If photographed outdoors, place artwork so as to reduce strong shadows and glare.
4. If photographing indoors, make sure that you are using the correct lighting for the type of film you are using. The camera store can assist you with this.
5. Remember that your objective here is to represent the piece as accurately as possible. Do not shoot at angles that will distort the size. Refrain from adding extra objects or props in the shoot that could confuse the viewer.

Portfolio Content Sheet

Studio Art Concentration

List your portfolio entries here by category and number (example: I.1, II.1, II.2, etc., from page 1). Attach duplicate copy to back of work. If submitting slides, check "slide" on this sheet.

Please type or print.

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