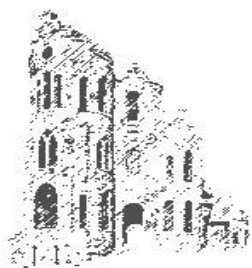


Robert R. McComsey Career Development Center



Careers In...Art and Design

Alfred University
Alfred NY 14802

Phone: 607-871-2164

Fax: 607-871-2791

www.alfred.edu/cdc - cdc@alfred.edu

Appointment Hours: 8:30-4:30 Mon, Tues & Fri

Walk-in Hours: 10:00-4:00 Wed & Thurs only

An Artist's Career Path

Our BFA degree programs have two main objectives: to help students develop the commitment and skills necessary to pursue a career in art; and to prepare students for graduate work. Outcomes for artists are very different than for other majors – “career success” can be defined as selling work, exhibiting at shows and galleries, freelancing, and many other activities. For that reason, the CDC provides services to artists in all these areas.

Sample Job Titles

- Studio artist
- Photographer
- Artist-in-residence
- Illustrator
- Website designer
- Advertising artist
- Graphic designer
- Art teacher/instructor
- Art director
- Museum curator
- Animator
- Industrial designer
- Restorer
- Slide registry librarian
- Archivist
- Conservator
- Education director
- Fashion illustrator
- Film editor/producer
- Buyer
- Set designer
- Model maker
- Furniture designer
- Critic
- Communications assistant
- Visual merchandising manager
- Interior designer
- Art appraiser
- Gallery assistant
- Art therapist

Our Graduates...Where Are They Now?

Within the past few years, graduates have obtained employment as:

Hot Glass Instructor – Corning Museum
Artistic Coordinator – MD Productions
Internal Design and Marketing Representative-
Capital Printing Ink
Wax sculpture worker – New Arts
Foundry/The Bee Folks
Curator – Poplar Hill Mansion
Photo Editor – Totsy
Education Coordinator –516 Arts
Assistant to an Executive Producer – Fox
Television Animation
Sculpture Department/Glass Instructor – Bella
Design/More Fire Glass Studio
Scenic Painter – Adirondack Scenic Inc.
Potter – MacKenzie Childs, Moravian Pottery
& Tileworks

Production Manager – Lifetouch, Inc.
Gallery Docent – Wayne County Arts Alliance
Graphic Designer – OfficeMax (Corporate
Headquarters)
Kids Accessory Designer – Accessory Network
Group
Production Manager, Jewelry Reproduction –
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Costume Maker – Izquierdo Studio
Furniture Designer/Painter – MacKenzie
Childs Ltd.
Shoe Designer – MiuMiu (Prada)
Fabrication Specialist – Shedd Aquarium
Ceramic Art Instructor – 171 Cedar Arts
Center

Automotive Sculptor – General Motors of North America

Graphic Designer – Time Magazine

...and have attended graduate school at:

SUNY Albany (Sculpture)

SUNY New Paltz (Sculpture)

School of Visual Arts (Photography, Video & Related Media)

California College of the Arts (Architecture)

Lesley University (Creative Arts Learning)

Florida Atlantic University (Landscape Architecture)

Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (Ceramics)

Seton Hall Law School (Law)

Tile Designer – Elon Tile

Fabricator- Rolls Royce

Boston University (Education)

Concordia University (Art Therapy)

Rhode Island School of Design (Sculpture/Ceramics, Glass)

Maryland Institute of Art (Photography)

School of the Art Institute of Chicago (Art Therapy)

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (pre-med)

California Institute of the Arts (Film/Video)

Nazareth College (Art Therapy)

Ohio State University (Ceramics)

Virginia Tech (Architecture)

Alumni who graduated several years ago have obtained employment as:

Professional Artist – Self-Employed (many)

Professor of Art – University of Miami

Artist - Mulcahy Desmett Art Associates

Graphic Designer – Vignelli Associates

Associate Art Director – Harry Abrams Publishing

Co-Director - Maryland Institute for Individual & Family Therapy

Managing Director – Pope Theatre Company

Art Director – George Eastman House

Fashion Designer – Bye Bye Designs

Assistant Professor of Sculpture- Alfred University

Get experience on campus

Try to get involved on campus in activities or organizations related to your area of interest. For example, if your dream is to become a designer for Nike, volunteer to take on freelance design projects to build your portfolio. Some campus organizations, clubs, or offices through which you can gain relevant experience include:

- Assist a visiting artist or faculty member
- Work in the art department of the Fiat, the Kanakadea Yearbook, Poesis, etc.
- The Art Union
- The Art Therapy Club
- Show your work as much as possible on campus and around town. Talk to a CDC staff member about finding opportunities outside Alfred.
- Work with performing arts organizations (Friday Night Live, Pirate Theatre, and AU Performing Arts) to design sets, lighting, costumes, props, etc.
- Get involved with other clubs and organizations that will allow you to create for them, to build your portfolio
- **Where to go from here?**
- Individual career counseling for anything from choosing a major to getting a job
- Saxon Job Link web services (www.alfred.edu/cdc) to view jobs and internships, post a resume and more
- Saxon Career Volunteer network – speak to alumni in your career field
- Web resources: www.artjob.com, www.artswire.org, or contact the CDC for additional possibilities

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