B.F.A. Programs in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Illustration, and Photography

ABOUT THE B.F.A. PROGRAMES IN FINE ARTS, GRAPHIC DESIGN, ILLUSTRATION, AND PHOTOGRAPHY

The Department of Art and Design at St. John's University offers four B.F.A. degrees: fine arts, graphic design, illustration, and photography. These programs prepare you for a career in multimedia communication and gallery management, design, illustration, publication, and a wide variety of business markets that employ visual professionals in their marketing, corporate identity, and social media departments.

The 132-credit programs, accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), provide you with the necessary technical and creative tools for your artistic and professional pursuits, as well as a rigorous liberal arts education. You gain the experience and intellectual preparation to establish your individual artistic identity. You develop a thorough understanding of the various media used in visual arts while refining your artistic skills through design, drawing, illustration, painting, and photography, using both traditional and digital software. You also benefit from St. John's well-rounded liberal arts curriculum and acquire essential critical thinking and analytic abilities.

Our alumni success rate is outstanding, and our internship program is connected with more than 140 organizations. We have a diverse faculty composed of accomplished artist/scholars with respected academic and professional credentials, each dedicated to the growth and development of our majors. Our substantial foundation programs engage state-of-the-art computer technology, web design, motion graphics, graphic design, and illustration courses, and our photography major is affiliated with the prestigious International Center of Photography (ICP).

You benefit from the University’s location in New York City—a global capital of the arts and media—with access to career-enhancing internships at leading cultural and arts organizations or at Fortune 1000 advertising companies and design firms.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.F.A. IN FINE ARTS, GRAPHIC DESIGN, ILLUSTRATION, OR PHOTOGRAPHY?

Thanks to their strong personal and professional connections, our professors help you build your own network in New York’s art scene.

Graduates with B.F.A. degrees from St. John's University have been hired at Grey Global Group; Marie Claire magazine; Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia; MTV Networks; Nickelodeon; Nike, Inc., and many prominent New York design firms and advertising agencies. Alumni also enjoy successful careers as animators, entrepreneurs, illustrators, and photographers.
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RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All our B.F.A. programs offer you the option of a thesis or internship during your senior year as the culmination of your degree. Students in their fourth year may pursue internships with publishers, magazines, advertising agencies, graphic design studios, museums, galleries, and other organizations that enable them to launch successful careers. Internships are individually arranged according to your interests, strengths, and career objectives. Thesis students work closely with their chosen faculty advisor in order to create a body of work to present to galleries or to use as part of an M.F.A. application portfolio. Our thesis option provides you with the opportunity to exhibit your work in the prestigious Dorsky Gallery, located in the middle of the thriving arts community in Long Island City.

St. John’s location, just 20 minutes from Manhattan, allows you to take advantage of extensive internship opportunities and our strong network of affiliates and prominent alumni.

Students in our B.F.A. programs can also opt to spend a semester abroad at our Rome and Paris campuses, in Spain, or engage in the many global programs offered by the University. You are encouraged to use visual media to explore a broader understanding of humanity from both a global and personal perspective.

For more information about study abroad, please visit www.stjohns.edu/globalstudies.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Welcome to the St. John’s University Department of Art and Design!

Our B.F.A. programs provide a rigorous curriculum for students studying fine arts, graphic design, illustration, and photography. We encourage you to partner with faculty and engage with the vibrancy of New York City as you develop creative work informed by your unique personal interests and talents.

Our B.F.A. programs help you explore your chosen discipline while engaging in a diversified core of liberal arts studies, culminating in a well-rounded and complete education. Our dynamic professors are nationally recognized scholars and artists who are also dedicated educators. Department-sponsored events include visiting artists’ lectures and workshops. Internships help you transition to professional careers. We are pleased to offer robust study abroad options led by faculty who work with students at our Rome, Italy, campus, as well as our locations in Limerick, Ireland, and Paris, France.

We look forward to preparing you for your creative professional career and being part of the exciting contributions you will make to the future of art and culture.

Elizabeth DeLuna
Professor and Chair
delunae@stjohns.edu

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

The Department of Art and Design offers two four-year, full scholarships to first-year students who demonstrate extraordinary proficiency in drawing, painting, printmaking, illustration, graphic design, and/or photography. St. John’s also bestows a $1,000 scholarship to high school seniors who demonstrate excellence in the visual arts. Students are selected for the visual arts scholarships through the admissions portfolio review process.

For more information, please visit stjohns.edu/Portfoliorequirements.

For more information about scholarships and financial aid, please visit www.stjohns.edu/admission-aid/tuition-and-financial-aid.