

**TO:** BFA candidates

**FROM:** Naomi Sugino Lear, BFA Coordinator

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Bachelor of Fine Arts Program**

### **DEPARTMENT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students who wish to be accepted into the BFA program must apply by the fourth week of his/her Junior year (60 hours or greater). The program requires a minimum of four semesters to complete from the time the candidate is accepted into the program. Students must have a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average in art courses to apply for the BFA program.

Semester 1: Initial Portfolio Review to determine entry into the program

Semester 2: Progress Review 1

Semester 3: Progress Review 2

Semester 4: Final Review and Group Exhibition or One-person Exhibition (Graduating semester)

In certain unique situations (e.g., transferring students), the Art Department will, in its discretion, permit a student to have the first review the same semester the student is accepted into the program.

#### **SEMESTER 1: INITIAL PORTFOLIO REVIEW**

To be admitted to the BFA program a student must showcase his/her ten best works to be reviewed by the faculty along with an in-progress artist statement. Students should consult with the professor who is responsible for his/her main emphasis area for the appropriate method of presentation for this review.

Based on the Initial Portfolio Review, the Art Faculty will designate each applicant into one of three categories: (1) admitted without reservations, (2) admitted with reservations, or (3) denied admission into the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program.

Students admitted "with reservations" must demonstrate significant progress during the review in the following semester in the areas of concern identified by the faculty.

All students admitted into the BFA Program must sign the last page of this packet and return it to the BFA Coordinator. This form will become part of your record.

After being accepted into the BFA Program, students need to meet with their advisor to plan out how they fulfill the "BFA Electives," which require that students complete twelve hours in studio courses beyond those required for their major.

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#### **SEMESTERS 2-3: PROGRESS REVIEWS**

All BFA students will undergo two progress reviews during the second and third semesters the student is in the BFA program. The reviews will occur mid-way through the semester. For each

review, students will present work completed since the last time the faculty reviewed the student's work. Students should present coursework as well as work completed outside of classes.

Students must organize their presentation to showcase the work that is discussed in the in-progress artist statement. Where applicable, students should mat and/or frame the work they plan to include in their final one-person exhibitions. Students are expected to intelligently discuss their work, using art terminology, while expressing their goals and explaining their progress. Generally, the faculty will review each student's work on the following criteria: (1) overall quality of the work, (2) the extent to which the student demonstrates vigorous production of work (in terms of number of pieces, scale of pieces, ambitiousness, etc.), (3) the emergence of consistent themes or concepts in the student's work, and (4) progress of the student's work—particularly in areas of concern identified in prior reviews.

Students are strongly encouraged to enroll in ART 496 Senior Seminar during the semester prior to their graduating semester. The content of the course is pertinent to developing and conducting an exhibition.

All BFA candidates are required to graduate with a minimum of a 3.25 grade point average in art courses. If a candidate has a GPA in art courses below 3.25 after the completion of the semester prior to the graduating semester, the candidate will be dismissed from the BFA program.

After each review, students will (1) continue in the program without reservations, (2) continue in the program with reservations, or (3) be dismissed from the program. Students that are permitted to continue in the program with reservations are placed on a probationary status and must show significant progress during the following review in the areas of concern identified by the Art Faculty to remain in the program.

Additionally, each BFA candidate is required to apply for gallery space for his/her final exhibition by April 1 of the semester prior to his/her graduating school year in order to guarantee to be included in the gallery schedule.

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## **GRADUATING SEMESTER**

No later than the fourth week of his/her graduating semester, each BFA candidate must provide their degree audit to the BFA Coordinator to demonstrate the student has achieved an Art GPA of at least 3.25. Students with less than a 3.25 GPA in all art courses should make an appointment with his/her academic advisor to pursue another art degree.

## **FINAL REVIEW**

At the Final Review, BFA candidates are expected to present all of the work the candidate expects to include in his/her BFA Exhibition. Digital images are permitted where appropriate, but students are expected to present their actual work where practicable. The student must also present the artist statement and promotional materials for his/her exhibition at this time.

The faculty will conduct the review based on the same criteria used in the two progress reviews. At the conclusion of this review, each candidate will either (1) be permitted to continue to the final

BFA exhibition or (2) will be dismissed from the program.

## **FINAL GRADUATING REQUIREMENTS**

Students are required to professionally exhibit their best work in a final BFA exhibition. The exhibition must include an adequate number of pieces to demonstrate the proficiency expected of a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Each candidate must orally defend his/her exhibition to the faculty. The faculty will determine (subject to final grades) whether to confer the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts on the candidate.

The exhibition should be conducted as follows:

Each candidate must provide an artist statement for the exhibition which must be presented in the gallery alongside the candidate's work.

The exhibition must include at least one series that demonstrates the candidate's ability to produce a cohesive body of work.

All work must be labeled with the title and medium.

Each candidate must provide a list of all works and the insurance value for each piece to the Art office two weeks in advance of the exhibition.

All advertising and promotion is the responsibility of the student. Candidates with a major area of emphasis in graphic design must obtain approval of promotional materials from the Graphic Design Professor.

Each candidate must arrange to schedule his/her gallery talk with the BFA Coordinator.

Each candidate must give a gallery talk.

Candidates receive a stipend of \$120 to help defray the cost of the reception. Candidates must submit appropriate receipts to the Art Office to receive the stipend.

Each candidate must submit to the Art Office a digital record of the exhibition on a CD. The CD must include the following:

- The artist statement for the exhibition
- A list of all works in the exhibition along with titles and media
- Digital images of all work in the exhibition

[Optional] Candidates may choose to produce a thesis work of art. Before beginning a thesis work, candidates must contact the professor of his/her major area of concentration for information on this project. The thesis work will be retained by the Art Department and become a part of the Department's permanent collection.

I understand the requirements stated above for the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program.

Name of candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Planned Major area of concentration: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Art GPA: (available under #7.BFA ART Requirement in Degree Audit)

\_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated graduation semester: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date