

Visual Arts Audition Requirements

Overview

The mission of the Kinder HSPVA Visual Arts Department program is to provide a solid foundation in the visual arts and to build a broad-based fine arts experience with an emphasis on idea/concept development, problem-solving, and critical thinking. We are looking for students who are genuinely interested in the Visual Arts. We seek creativity and originality. Auditioning students should be hard working, expressive and passionate individuals who want to spend three hours every day in art class. Art continues at home as homework and journal work. This program focuses on personal and artistic growth. We expect commitment from all our students.

The first-year student will spend half of their time in drawing classes. They will draw from life for 2 days of the week and will complete 2D and 3D design projects for the other half. Students should have a strong interest and sufficient technical abilities to enter this fast-paced program. Please note, the curriculum does not involve cartooning or anime as solutions to prompts. During sophomore year, students will focus on technical abilities in tool time, ceramics, printmaking, painting, photography and video. Students should be open-minded about learning all these skills and mediums. Junior and senior year, students will create a portfolio that expresses their unique ideas. The focus is developing a body of work that digs deep and is invested in skills, research, and creativity. They may choose the mediums that they want to utilize and develop further.

When are auditions and callbacks?

All auditions for the 2021-22 school year will be virtual.

The submission deadline for materials is Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 11:59 PM CT. Submissions will be accepted from November 20, 2020 – December 9, 2020. Please check our website at that time for uploading instructions. Each assignment and video will be uploaded individually.

Callbacks are by invitation only. You will be notified if you have received a virtual callback no later than December 18, 2020. Callback instructions will be provided to students at that time. The deadline for callback materials is Friday, January 8, 2021 at 11:59 PM CT.

What do I need to submit for the audition?

Each applicant will submit one video and images of four pieces of art.

1) 60-90 second Video - "Why HSPVA?"

Students in the Visual Arts program spend three hours every day in art classes. Share why you want to attend our program and why you are passionate about art.

2) Your Artwork

Submit a picture of a piece of art you have made that you are proud of. It can be a drawing, painting, sculpture, digital painting, an image created in Photoshop, animation, video that you've created. This work should be original and creative. Your art should not be derived from copying from a photograph, copying existing artwork or copying characters. The work could be a class assignment or something you created on your own.

We suggest that you do not submit anime or cartoons. We are looking at your technical abilities, creativity, individuality, and effort.

3) Self-Portrait

What are important things in your life that define you? Is it your ancestry? Is it your background? Does your home and homelife inform your identity? Do your friends help define you? What is your lifestyle? What are your interests?

Create a portrait that includes a likeness of your face and your upper body (shoulders and neck). The background should illustrate who you are. Render in the media of your choice (pencil, watercolor, ink, charcoal etc.) The portrait should range from 8.5"x11" to 9"x12".

When rendering your face, use a **mirror**. Use line, value, and shading to create form. Pay attention to the shape of your face and the details within it. Do not copy from a photograph or use your phone. This is important that you look and translate from life. We are NOT looking for a cartoon drawing. We are looking at your technical abilities.

4) Life drawing

Collect 3-5 objects. Set the objects in front of a background (cloth, wall, paper, bedspread, middle of a table). When arranging the objects, you may set them up in an interesting way. They can be stacked, layered, grouped.

Draw these items AND the background in media of your choice (pencil, watercolor, ink, charcoal etc.). Use line, value and shading to create form and space. Include shadows.

The life drawing should range from 8.5"x11" to 9"x12". We are looking at your technical abilities.

DO NOT TAKE A PICTURE OF THESE ITEMS AND DRAW FROM A PHOTO OR YOUR PHONE. LOOK AND DRAW FROM LIFE.

5) Important issues

Part 1: Make a piece of artwork that communicates an issue that is important to you. The artwork should at least be 8.5"x11" but can be larger. It can be a drawing, painting, sculpture, or collage. It cannot be a photograph or video. We are looking at your technical abilities and your creativity.

Part 2: Write 2-4 sentences explaining what your idea is and your thinking behind the piece.

Definitions

Line- think about how you use lines in your work. Lines can be thick, thin, loose, tight, fast, slow, translucent, opaque. Varying lines can add interest and guide the eye around the piece. You can overlap lines to add density and weight to a piece.

Value- think about the light hitting the objects. The value ranges from the brightest whites to the darkest darks and everything in between from light gray to dark gray. Imagine those objects in grayscale. Where are the brightest spots? Where are the darkest areas?

Shading depicts darker areas on a form to give it depth. Think about the shadows that the object creates.

Important Information About Your Artwork

You will be uploading your materials to a website. You may take a photograph or scan your work. If you are taking a photograph, do your best to make sure the piece is in focus and that the lighting is even as possible. Try to make sure that shadows are not blocking or obscuring the piece. Frame the work as close as possible. Make sure there is nothing distracting in the background. Use a neutral background (wall, countertop, clear tabletop). We are not judging your photography skills – only the art that you have created.