



Portfolio Review • BFA in Art

MSU DENVER DEPARTMENT OF ART

Why is a portfolio review necessary?

When you are admitted to MSU Denver, you initially declare a B.A. in Art (ART) or a B.A. in Art History, Theory, and Criticism (ARTH) degree. If you intend to major in the Art B.F.A., you must apply, submitting a portfolio for review.

What to know?

What is a successful B.F.A. entrance portfolio?

The portfolio is a collection of your best artwork created approximately in the last 5 years and should reflect your emerging interests, skills, and willingness to explore, experiment, and express yourself. We are most interested in how you communicate ideas and demonstrate your concept, process, and use of a variety of media. We encourage you to take risks in your artwork, be inventive in how you solve problems, and be transparent about your process. The ideal portfolio demonstrates that you are in a developing stage and are ready to pursue the BFA degree with the above qualities in mind. All applicants are encouraged to meet with a faculty advisor to answer questions, review your statement before you submit it and generally to support you during your application process.

Who can submit?

All students who are intending to major in Art can submit a portfolio.

When do I submit?

Submit your portfolio ***before the end of the 6th week*** of the fall or spring semester. An email will go out to all students with submission deadlines and dates of the BFA portfolio application information sessions. We strongly encourage you to attend one of these sessions. All dates will be posted outside the Art Department Office.

Where do I submit?

Submit electronically to ***www.msudenver.slideroom.com***. There is a \$10 dollar fee to apply. You can upload and edit content as much as you want before submitting, however once you press submit you cannot access your application.

BFA Portfolio Application Requirements

1

Complete or transfer General Studies Written Communication (CO2 designation), Oral Communication, and Quantitative Literacy courses.

2

Complete or transfer all 18 credits of Art Foundations; ART 1101, ART 1141, ART 1501, ART 1531, ARTH 1600, ARTH 1700.

3

Complete 3 additional credits (one class) in CDES, ARTH (or ART, ARTE at MSU Denver), for a total of 21 credits in the major.

4

Have a minimum of a 2.75 G.P.A. in coursework in your “major in BA Art” at time of submission. (Transfer students must have an MSU Denver G.P.A. – See “Transfer Student” below.)

** See a faculty advisor if there are questions about any of these criteria.*

DEADLINE

Due by *the end of the 6th week* of every semester.

Submission Materials

VISUAL CONTENT

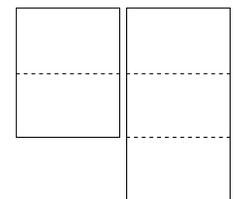
10 total images/slides

- Formatted for landscape orientation.
- 1280 x 800 pixels in size.
- Under 5 megabytes (5MB) each.



If your project does not fit

- Complex or systems-based projects can be uploaded as PDF's in 1280x1600 or 2400 pixels dimensions resulting in scrolling to view up to three screen views.



Scrolling JPEGs do not work, scrolling files must be PDF.

- **Video or animation content** can be uploaded to SlideRoom if they are under 250 megabytes (250MB) or shown in an image-based storyboard format. Links to the videos or animations hosted on Youtube or Vimeo can be put in the project description.

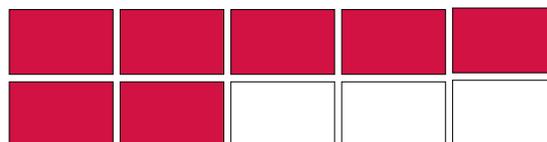
Submissions must include:

7 examples of *your best, most recent completed works*, in any media as selected from studio course assignments from MSU Denver or transfer institutions. A project with multiple components that requires more than one slide or screen view constitutes one work.

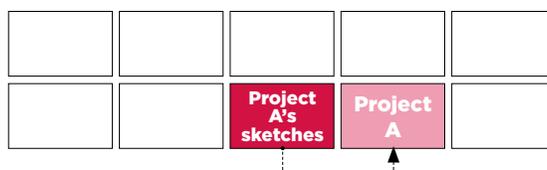
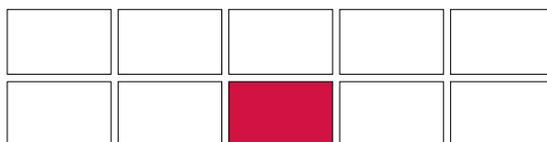
1 example of *a self-directed or personally derived project*.

1 example showing *detailed and intentional sketches from one of the above projects*.

1 example showing *detailed and intentional sketches for a new or speculative project still under development*.



* Not required to be in this order. Order your portfolio to best show your work.



* Should be placed next to each other for better presentation.



WRITTEN CONTENT

It is in students' best interest to write the Statement of Intent and Project Descriptions ahead of time in a text editing application, spellcheck and proofread, or even make an appointment with the writing center.

Written content needs to be entered into the SlideRoom interface. Do not design written content onto your visual content submissions.

Statement of Intent

In 250 words explain the thinking behind your art practice and why you are a strong candidate for the B.F.A. program. Successful applications include reflective, coherent, and grammatically correct statements. You may also address some these questions if they support your explanation:

**Statement
of Intent
(cont.)**

- How does your curiosity and inquiry influence your artmaking?
- What is art to you and why is it important to you?
- Who/what has influenced your work? How and why? (artists, writers, philosophers, popular culture, classes, instructors, current events, history, politics, etc.)
- What specific art-world experience has had an impact on your work? (exhibits, internships, mentors, travel, jobs)
- Do you have career goals in mind? What and why?

**Project
Descriptions**

In all applications, students write a short description (called “description” in Slideroom) with every separate image. This gives the evaluators a context in which to understand the artwork. If the project is an assignment, please describe the assignment and explain how you came up with your creative solution. Comments can include concepts, reason for materials, influences, research, and the process of inquiry. Simply stating the art media and size dimensions is not adequate.

Acceptance

Evaluation: *How is your portfolio evaluated?*

Jury

A faculty jury will review portfolios without the student being present.

**Evaluation
categories**

Portfolios are evaluated on: Research, Execution, and Articulation. For explanations of these categories, attend a portfolio workshop.

Scoring

Portfolios are scored on a scale of Beginning, Developing, Accomplished, and Exemplary. For admittance, applicants must receive a score of Developing or higher in all three categories.

How will I know if my portfolio submission was accepted?

You will receive an emailed letter of acceptance or non-acceptance from the Art faculty jury.

When will my B.F.A. status be official?

After you receive your letter of acceptance, you will meet with an Art faculty advisor. With them, during that meeting, you will sign a “Change of Major” form. After this form is approved by the Art Department Chair, your new status as a B.F.A. major will take effect.

What if my portfolio submission is not accepted?

You may reapply for review the following semester after you meet with an Art faculty advisor for guidance about revision. You may apply up to 3 times. If you are not admitted after 3 attempts, you can complete the B.A. in Art which requires that you select a minor in another academic area.

Special Conditions

Transfer Student

Transfer students must meet with advisors well in advance of submitting their portfolio. This includes meeting with advisors in the Art Department to resolve the transfer of Art, Art History, or Communication Design coursework and possibly meeting with relevant departments overseeing General Studies courses for General Study course transfers.

Art Education Student

Art Education students may register for education and art education classes before entrance into the BFA, if needed. Art Education students start out with a B.A. in Art and must apply to the B.F.A. degree in Art and submit a portfolio for review. The degree is the B.F.A. in Art Education. Post-Baccalaureate Art Education students, applying for licensure only, must submit a portfolio for review, but a GPA requirement does not need to be met since the previous degree has been completed successfully.

Access Center - Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Metropolitan State University of Denver is committed to providing an accessible and inclusive learning environment for all students, including those with disabilities. Students with a diagnosed condition/disability which may impact their BFA portfolio application or ability to meet the BFA Portfolio requirements should contact the Access Center, located in the Plaza Building, Suite 122, 303-615-0200, accesscenter@msudenver.edu. The Access Center is the designated department responsible for coordinating accommodations and services for students with disabilities. If warranted, students may provide an Accommodation Notification Letter obtained from the Access Center to the Chair of the Portfolio Review Committee. If the student does not

know who the chair of the portfolio review committee is they can contact the Department of Art at 303-615-0300. Information pertaining to a student's disability is treated in a confidential manner; however, all members of the BFA review committee, which includes the Chair of the Department of Art, will be furnished a copy of any relevant academic documentation by the Chair of the Portfolio Review Committee. Further information is available by visiting the Access Center website: msudenver.edu/access.

Portfolio Submission Checklist • BFA in Art
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COURSEWORK

1 Have you taken the following courses?

- Studio Foundations: 2D
- Studio Foundations: 3D
- Studio Foundations: 4D
- World Art I
- World Art II
- Studio Foundations: Drawing
- + one other ART, CDES, ARTE, or ARTH class

2 Have you taken *four* General Studies courses?

- Written Communication x2
- Oral Communication
- Quantitative Literacy

3 Do you have a 2.75 GPA in your coursework in your “major in B.A. Art”?

- Yes
- No (If your GPA is below a 2.75 in your “major in BA Art” please meet with an Art Department faculty.)

APPLICATION

4 Did you include a written statement?

- 250-word statement

5 Portfolio: 10 images total?

- 7 examples of your best, most recent completed works, in any media as selected from studio course assignments from MSU Denver or transfer institutions.
- 1 example of a self-directed or personally derived project.
- 1 example showing your research ideation (sketchbook, mindweb) for one of the above projects.
- 1 example showing FUTURE research ideation for a project still under development
- **Description:** Do all of your images include writing that explains the context of the art?

6 Have you submitted your application on Slideroom?

- Yes
- No

7 Have you paid the \$10 processing fee?

- Yes
- No