About the College of Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)

Gain the vision and confidence to pursue a successful career in a creative field. Within VPA’s community of active artists and scholars, you’ll be challenged to grow within your major, as well as explore new experiences on campus, the Syracuse community, and around the world.

**Majors**

**School of Art**
- Illustration
- Studio Arts (B.F.A. and B.S.)*

Dual Enrollment: School of Education (Art Education)

**School of Design**
- Communications Design
- Environmental and Interior Design
- Fashion Design
- Industrial and Interaction Design

**Department of Transmedia**
- Art Photography
- Art Video
- Computer Art and Animation
- Film

* You can choose to focus on intensive areas including ceramics, jewelry and metalsmithing, painting, printmaking, and/or sculpture.

**Combining Majors**

Pursue a dual major or a minor within the College of Visual and Performing Arts or combine your major with one from Syracuse University’s eight other undergraduate colleges. A few examples:

- Majors: Fashion Design + Retail Management
  Career: Department store fashion buyer
- Majors: Studio Art + Marketing Management
  Career: Art gallery director
- Majors: Illustration + English and Textual Studies
  Career: Graphic novelist

*On the Cover:* Work by Andrew Fielding ’16 (left), Lavender Xu ’13 (middle), and Kendra Ward ’17, art director/Nicola Rinaldo ’17, camera (right)

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An Art Photography and Fashion Design student collaboration

Nancy Cantor Warehouse, home to courses in design
Why choose the College of Visual and Performing Arts?

Increase your marketability
VPA is a professional school situated within a major research university, which means you can add majors, minors, and other special programs to complement your coursework.

The full college experience
Unlike some art and design schools, you’ll enjoy a classic residential campus, Division I athletics, and exposure to different academic disciplines and student organizations.

Practice for working with future clients
You’ll collaborate with all types of students, including non-arts majors, which will prepare you to relate to and meet the needs of a diverse and broad client base.

Study abroad
Consistently ranked one of the top international study programs in the United States, Syracuse Abroad offers semester, summer, short-term, and yearlong options. VPA students fuel their creativity in Florence, Italy; Prague, Czech Republic; and London, England, among other places.

Career support
Through networking events and the OrangeLink database, you’ll connect with alumni who hold leadership positions at Walt Disney Studios, Smithsonian, Michael Kors, Hallmark Cards, Mattel, HarperCollins Publishers, The New York Times, DKNY, and Nickelodeon Animation Studios.
About

Via studio classes, you’ll develop skills in technique, critical thinking, and creative problem solving. Outside the classroom, you’ll engage in valuable experiential opportunities, whether helping local school children with art projects or fighting hunger with community artists through the Empty Bowls event. Through the Professional Practice in the Arts course, you’ll gain critical career development, while exploring job opportunities and refining your resume.

Majors

- Art Education (dually enrolled with the School of Education)
- Illustration
- Studio Arts (B.F.A. and B.S.)*

* You can choose to focus on intensive areas including ceramics, jewelry and metalsmithing, painting, printmaking, and/or sculpture.

Related Careers

- Art critic
- Art dealer
- Art teacher
- Artist
- Conservationist
- Cultural journalist
- Curator
- Gallerist
- Greeting card artist
- Housewares designer
- Illustrator
- Master printer

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SCHOOL OF ART
Highlights and Distinctions

Reputation
Syracuse University was the first degree-conferring university in the United States to offer a bachelor of fine arts degree. Notable alumni include pioneering minimalist and conceptualist Sol LeWitt ’49, Marmaduke cartoonist Brad Anderson ’51, and Chris Renaud ’89, co-director of Despicable Me, Despicable Me 2, and executive director of Minions.

Study abroad . . . or in cities across the U.S.
Spend a semester at Syracuse’s campus in Florence, Italy, where you’ll explore major museums and work in the University’s art studios, located in the historic art district.

In New York City or Los Angeles, take a Maymester course that allows you to experience the diversity of classical and contemporary art in two of the greatest art cities in the world.

Learn in the best facilities
Purpose-built northern-light artists’ painting studios
Illustration labs featuring updated technology
Large print studios with a paper research lab
Fully equipped fabrication and wood shops
Each student is allocated space to develop their individual artwork in one of our energetic and active studios.

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College of Visual and Performing Arts

About

Join an inquisitive and passionate community of students and faculty to collaborate on creative solutions to real-world concerns, from urban revitalization and green living to wearable technologies. Known for its top-ranked programs and focus on sustainable design practices, the School of Design will prepare you to succeed as a designer now—and in the rapidly evolving future.

Majors

- Communications Design
- Environmental and Interior Design
- Fashion Design
- Industrial and Interaction Design

Related Careers

- Advertising executive
- Creative director
- Fashion designer
- Green product developer
- Interior design director
- Packaging designer
- Retail store designer
- Sustainable furniture designer

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Supermodel and entrepreneur Emme ’85 mentors fashion design students.
glucose monitor ideation
SCHOOL OF DESIGN
Highlights and Distinctions

Reputation
Over the past 10 years, the School of Design’s programs have been ranked among the top design programs in the nation.

Notable alumni include Alan Dye ’97, Apple’s vice president of user interface design; Thom Filicia ’93, interior design expert; and Gianfranco Zaccai ’70, inventor and designer of the Swiffer.

Downtown learning
All design programs are housed at Syracuse University’s Nancy Cantor Warehouse (downtown Syracuse) which provides students 24-hour access to studios, state-of-the-art workshops, and an environment that fosters collaboration between the four design majors. You’ll draw inspiration from a city atmosphere and benefit from community projects and regular interactions with local design firms.

Immersion and study abroad experiences make you job-ready
Design students enjoy opportunities at a wide range of companies (many with alumni in key positions), including Smart Design, IDEO, Thom Filicia, Betty Samuel, IBM, Reebok, DKNY, Ralph Lauren, Zac Posen, Kenneth Cole, Calvin Klein, Grey Advertising, Ogilvy, Condé Nast, Giorgio Armani, and Michael Kors. Students have the opportunity to study at Syracuse University centers in London and Florence.

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College of Visual and Performing Arts

About

Gain the experience and skills you need to produce technically and visually professional work. No matter which major you choose, your first year will include four core courses that will facilitate a cross-disciplinary approach to art-making and build a community of collaboration. This means you’ll develop expertise in your field(s) and have opportunities in and out of the classroom to diversify your skill set so that you can stand out to employers—and as a contemporary artist.

Majors

- Art Photography
- Art Video
- Computer Art and Animation
- Film

Related Careers

- Art director
- Contemporary artist
- Film director
- Gallerist/Curator
- Multimedia animator
- Photographer
- Video editor
- Video game designer

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Photographer and video artist LaToya Ruby Frazier G'07 speaks to students at the Whitney Museum about her exhibition.

Contemplate cutting-edge art during a private tour with the curators of the Berlin Biennale.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSMEDIA

Highlights and Distinctions

Reputation
The Department of Transmedia’s film program is ranked No. 23 by The Hollywood Reporter.

Notable Transmedia alumni include photographer, Guggenheim Fellow, and winner of the MacArthur Genius Grant LaToya Ruby Frazier G’07, and Bill Viola ’73, H’95, internationally recognized video artist.

Immersion experiences make you job-ready.
Recent student internships include Sundance, Cannes Film Festival, Museum of Modern Art, NBCUniversal, Real Simple, and Vogue.

Study abroad . . . or in cities across the U.S.
Exhibit your work at a gallery in Berlin or Los Angeles; meet with curators and artists at the Venice Biennale; attend a film festival in Bologna; or spend a semester immersed in cinematography or still photography in Prague.

Engage with the film and special effects industry during Sorkin Week, a highly competitive, all-expense paid week in Los Angeles, or stay for the LA semester interning with an artist, gallery, or in the film industry.

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“I wanted to be involved on campus and have opportunities that an art-only school would not have been able to provide. I had two minors outside of the arts, I was on the executive board for the SU chapter of Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA), and I was a sister in Alpha Gamma Delta.”
— Tiffany SooHoo ’17, Monmouth Junction, NJ

“I decided to come to Syracuse University because of the experienced, enthusiastic professors and the network of alumni. When I’m not in the studio, I can be found at Syracuse lacrosse games, sketching in the greenhouse, or reading on the Quad.”
— Annie Schwartz ’18, Waterville Valley, NH

“I came to Syracuse because of the emphasis on diversity and the conceptual freedom that the art and design courses provide.”
— Marius Jackson ’17, Atlanta, GA
Quick Facts/Syracuse University

Founded in 1870

Location: Main campus is in Syracuse, NY, with U.S. centers in New York City, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C., and seven centers around the world.

Undergraduate Enrollment: 14,000+ students representing 118 countries

 Majors: 200 majors/100 minors within nine undergraduate schools and colleges

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 15:1

Average Class Size: 26

Research: Syracuse, a Research 1 institution, was awarded $79.3 million in 2016 for research, teaching, and other sponsored programs.

Study Abroad: Program consistently ranked one of the top in the U.S. Almost half of Syracuse students study abroad at least once.

Career Placement: 91 percent of 2016 seniors responding to the University’s Placement Survey are employed, joining the military, or attending graduate school.

Syracuse University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. For information, please visit msche.org or middlestates.syr.edu/statement-of-accreditation-status.