CRAFT/MATERIAL STUDIES

IS CURRENTLY SEEKING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARTISTS TO JOIN OUR MFA PROGRAM FOR THE 2018 FALL TERM.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15 (FALL ADMISSIONS ONLY)

The Department of Craft/Material Studies, at VCUarts, is a diverse and vibrant community of artists, scholars, and students, who are informed by a practice of studio work and research. With a strong emphasis on critical and creative thinking the academic programming is designed to impart intelligence and build student confidence in their disciplines of choice.

Recognized by its peer institutions, the School of the Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCUarts) is among the top schools of art and design in the country, a ranking that is based on graduate programming. VCUarts is housed within a public, urban research university that offers a range of areas of study. Boasting a stellar roster of faculty members, who are successful and active in their respective disciplines, the school attracts students of the highest caliber from across the country and around the world. Graduates of our professional degree programs are artists, scholars, educators, performers, entrepreneurs and more. Counted among our alumni are Guggenheim, Grammy, Fulbright, Emmy and MacArthur “Genius Award” recipients.

VCUARTS CRAFT/MATERIAL STUDIES OFFERS:

- Intensive studio practice with concentrations in five disciplines: clay, fiber, wood, glass, and metal. Emphasis is placed on self-motivation, individual investigation, and the development of professional research.
- 60 credit degree plan includes courses such as graduate studio credits, Graduate Seminar, Critique Class, Art History and open electives
- Private and semi-private studio spaces for graduate students
- Access to internationally recognized visiting artists through presentations and one-on-one studio visits
- Merit-based Graduate Assistantships that provide tuition support and stipend
- Opportunities to teach undergraduate classes
- Individual graduate travel grants for the public presentation of studio work or research papers
- Outstanding technical resources including state-of-the-art facilities
- Professional exhibition opportunities
- Collaborative learning environment across all media areas
SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE MERITORIOUSLY AWARDED:

- Graduate Assistantships are 9-month and include tuition support (excluding fees) and an annual stipend. They may be repeated/renewed in sequential years.
- Graduate School Assistantships are 12-month and include tuition support (excluding fees) and an annual stipend.
- Thesis Dissertation Scholarships (during final semester) provide tuition waivers and stipend.
- Graduate research grants.
- Extensive graduate studies support that is university wide. For example, open call travel grants to attend conferences, or to support independent research needs.
- Teacher of record for undergraduate classes.
- VMFA Fellowships (Virginia Museum of Fine Arts) for Graduate students which are $6,000.00.

ABOUT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA:

Richmond is a compact city—fewer than four miles stretch between the western edge of the Museum District to the east end of downtown. As an urban center, it is very much characterized by creative energy and activity. The Arts District extends just east of campus and includes the VCU Institute of Contemporary Art, (opening April 2018), art galleries, and locally owned restaurants. Galleries are also located elsewhere in the city, as are venues for live music, theater, cinema, and dance—all of which undoubtedly contribute to the fact that Richmond tops the list of 10 happiest metropolitan areas with a population greater than 1 million, in a study conducted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Richmond is also ranked among the best river cities in America, by Outside magazine. The James River, located minutes from downtown, is popular among kayakers and swimmers. Its banks offer mountain-biking and running trails as well as host sites for annual music, food and cultural festivals. Sites of diverse historical significance are also situated along the river.

The abundance of outdoor activities, arts events, and cultural organizations compel many VCU alumni to remain in Richmond, in part because of the professional networks that they build during their years in school. Forbes has ranked Richmond among the 10 best cities for finding employment.
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SPECIALIZED AREAS, PLEASE CONTACT US:

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OR VISIT:

VCU SCHOOL OF THE ARTS: https://arts.vcu.edu/
VCU DEPARTMENT OF CRAFT AND MATERIAL STUDIES: http://arts.vcu.edu/craft/
FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: VCUarts Craft/Material Studies