

# NURTURE

## VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Graduate Programs in:  
Graphic Design  
Interior Design  
Photography & Film  
Kinetic Imaging  
Craft/Material Studies  
Sculpture + Extended Media  
Painting + Printmaking  
Art History  
Art Education  
Music  
Theatre

[arts.vcu.edu](http://arts.vcu.edu)

**vcuarts**



## GRAPHIC DESIGN (MFA)

The Master of Fine Arts in Design/Visual communications, offered in the Graphic Design department, is one of VCU's most renowned design programs. It is ranked #4 in the nation, #1 among public universities by *US News & World Report*. The MFA in Visual Communications program prepares graduate students to assume leadership roles in the complex and evolving profession of Design. Students enrolled in this program conduct intensive visual and/or theoretical research and are interested in investigating the intersection of function and expression in design problem solving.

## PHOTOGRAPHY + FILM (MFA)

A Master of Fine Arts degree is offered for students whose work challenges the common definitions of photography, film, and video while maintaining the disciplinary integrity of traditional practice. The department works to advance the highest standards of photography and film by providing an artistic community for the development and exchange of progressive visual ideas.

## CRAFT / MATERIAL STUDIES (MFA)

A Master of Fine Arts is offered in Fiber, Metal, Glass, Wood and Clay. These degrees are a unique combination of intensive study and critiques and allow for a wide variety of insights from peers and diverse faculty. Students mine the rich history and technologies of the fields of craft and take risks into new territories. Stellar visiting artists/critics routinely give individual critiques and presentations. The result: conceptual, skillful, and meaningful works; rich dialog; and a great network of alumni, faculty, and peers to help students establish their careers. *US News & World Report* ranks the Department #4 in Fiber, #5 in Glass, #10 in Jewellery/Metalsmithing, and #12 in Ceramics.

## PAINTING + PRINTMAKING (MFA)

VCU's highly selective Master of Fine Arts in Painting + Printmaking offers 15 individuals, from across the globe, an unrivaled opportunity to inquire together for two intensive years. Painting and Printmaking is committed to studio research that broadens the understanding of our disciplines, and individual practice, in all its forms. Graduate Painting and Printmaking offers private studios, state-of-the-art workshop facilities, a diverse team of dedicated faculty, and a renowned visiting artist program—all of which contribute to the particular alchemy that attracts remarkable artists to our program.

## ART HISTORY (MA, Ph.D.)

Graduate degree programs in Art History include the Masters with individual tracks in Architectural History, Art Historical Studies, and Museum Studies, and the Doctorate with Historical and Curatorial tracks. Graduate students develop expertise in theoretical and methodological applications of the discipline as well as scholarly expertise in defined areas of art historical inquiry. In their theses and dissertation, graduate students conduct research on a broad range of topics that correspond to areas of faculty research.

## THEATRE (MFA)

The Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Pedagogy program is individually tailored to prepare students to enter the field of teaching at the college level. The program boasts over 90 alumni who currently hold key faculty positions at institutions with major League of Regional Theatres (LORT). The Master of Fine Arts in Theatre/Professional Studio integrates extensive training in set and costume design, as well as lighting design, history of interior design or architecture and scene painting. Rendering and portfolio building, as well as computer drafting, with practicums and professional internships at local theatres complete the professional skills program.

## INTERIOR DESIGN (MFA)

The Department of Interior Design offers a professional entry level Master of Fine Arts in Design with a specialization in Interior Environments. The goal of the program is to produce creative designers whose design solutions are based on human response in the contemporary environment. Mastery of design skills, development of productive habits, knowledge of resources, and an awareness of interrelated disciplines equip the student with the tools and expertise necessary to pursue creative design careers. Interior Design is ranked #10 nationally by *DesignIntelligence 2011 America's Best Architecture and Design Schools*.

## KINETIC IMAGING (MFA)

The Department of Kinetic Imaging Master of Fine Arts is a dynamic studio program in video art, sound art, experimental animation and the broad intersections and hybrids that these practices encompass. Installation, performance, interactive environments, the projected screen; the direction is determined by the individual student. Students produce creative works that contribute to and challenge the rapidly evolving dialogue in media arts.

## SCULPTURE + EXTENDED MEDIA (MFA)

The Master of Fine Arts degree in Sculpture is one of VCU's flagship programs. This is best measured by the challenging, talented and curious students the department attracts from around the globe. In addition, *US News & World Report* ranks VCU's Sculpture MFA program first in the United States. Students are drawn by the ever-increasing visibility of the department's alumni and the reputation of a diversified and talented faculty.

## MUSIC (MM)

The Master of Music in Music Education is designed to provide the opportunity for advanced graduate study for the practicing professional music educator. It is the goal of the Department of Music that successful graduates emerge as leaders and innovators in the profession. The degree is exclusively offered as a three-summer program, providing flexibility to meet the needs of students intending careers as teaching practitioners or researchers and addresses individual pedagogical interests. Students may choose a master's thesis or project as part of the curriculum requirements.

## ART EDUCATION (MAE, MAE + L)

The Master of Art Education degree offers two degree tracks. The first is for teachers who are already licensed and who wish to deepen their understanding of Art Education. The second track is for people who hold a BA, BFA, or related degree and who want to earn both a master's degree in Art Education and a teaching license at the same time. The program includes required and elective courses and, through graduate coursework, allows students to pursue their areas of interest.

## CONTACT

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### VCUarts GRADUATE FUNDING

The School of the Arts offers funding for all of its programs in Fine Art, Design, Art History, Art Education and Music. VCUarts offers competitive, merit based Graduate Teaching Assistantships available for MA, MFA and Ph.D. students. Graduate Teaching Assistantships provide full tuition support and a nine-month stipend.

The VCU Graduate School offers a limited number of Graduate Assistantships for our most outstanding candidates. These awards are granted through the departments and require an outstanding academic history in combination with work that demonstrates the highest level of accomplishment and potential. Graduate funding is awarded after a student has first been accepted into a program.

### GRADUATE RESEARCH FUNDING

With more than \$25,000 committed annually, the Graduate Research Grants are competitive grants eligible to students who have completed candidacy. In addition to VCUarts funding, VCU's Graduate School offers an array of scholarships, thesis/dissertation assistantships and opportunities.

### GRADUATE TRAVEL GRANTS

Graduate students at VCUarts are eligible for many types of additional funding throughout the course of their graduate studies. The School of the Arts sponsors Graduate Travel Grants for students mounting exhibitions, presenting academic papers, giving performances and other opportunities that bring their work to a larger audience. VCUarts typically grants more than \$30,000 yearly in funding for graduate student travel.

### VCUARTS FACILITIES

VCU's School of the Arts features a comprehensive set of facilities and technology serving the fine art and design disciplines. Resources include large format printing, photographic quality digital output, three-dimensional printing, metal and wood workshops, laser cutting, CNC routing, letterpress, ceramics, glassblowing, metalworking and many other specialized facilities.

Many MFA thesis exhibitions are held in VCU's Anderson Gallery. MFA candidacy exhibitions, occurring at the end of the first year, are held in off-campus spaces, frequently using Richmond's historic turn-of-the-century buildings and commercial spaces. The Fine Arts Building houses the FAB Gallery, devoted to special projects and graduate student work.

### VCUarts RICHMOND

VCU's location in Richmond, Virginia is a key part of the graduate experience. Richmond, a storied city with a past, has an improbable combination of charm, quality of life, historic architecture, a do-it-yourself ethic and more culture per-capita than any city its size. VCU is a short distance from Washington D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and the museums, libraries and research facilities along the east coast. It is also an hour's drive to the ocean, the Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah Valley. Richmond is home to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, one of the country's great public collections; numerous galleries; performing arts venues; theaters and non-profit venues.

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VCUarts is the #1 ranked public university graduate arts & design program in the country, *US News & World Report*

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# CULTURE