

# Nova Southeastern University

## Visual Arts Portfolio Review Process

All NSU art majors may apply for a visual arts talent grant by submitting a digital portfolio, in addition to the supporting materials detailed below. The grant program is designed to identify and cultivate emerging professional visual artists and designers. We wish to nurture original creative thinkers and capable artists. Selected students are expected to be effective visual and verbal communicators, committed problem-solvers, respectful colleagues, and scholars who are aware of their historical and contemporary context.

You should choose your portfolio material to show that you have the talent, skill, and commitment to be a grant recipient. Your portfolio should reflect your interest and abilities in studio art and/or graphic design as well as display a developing aesthetic.

In evaluating the portfolio and the other application material, art and design faculty will evaluate your suitability for the grant by using the checklist at the end of this document. If your overall level of accomplishment in all of these areas is unsatisfactory, you will not be considered to receive a grant.

Prospective and returning students must deliver the electronic portfolio, unofficial transcript, statement and visual arts grant application to the Performing and Visual Art Department by 5:00 pm of the designated day. Please do not submit large files via email, as they may not properly transmit and will render your application incomplete. To submit a portfolio, you must send a link through a third party vendor, such as Dropbox, or deliver a disc with the required materials by the deadline date/time.

**Please Note: Visual arts grants are available to art majors only. Grant recipients must declare art as their primary major before funding will be awarded.**

### Contents of the Portfolio

The portfolio should include 15 to 20 pieces, comprised of projects from the following areas:

Two-Dimensional Design, Three-Dimensional Design, Drawing, Figure Drawing, Color Fundamentals, Graphic Design, Digital Photography, Illustration, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Printmaking, Mixed Media, Book Art

If you have questions about what is appropriate for the portfolio, please contact Tennille Shuster, Associate Professor of Art & Design at [ts756@nova.edu](mailto:ts756@nova.edu) or 954-262-7611.

## Visual Art/Design Portfolio

Craftsmanship and clarity of information are important in the portfolio presentation.

### *Name/label the digital files*

Label each piece with all of the following information:

1. Item number (1-20, as listed on Project Description Sheet, provided below)
2. Your name
3. Medium/materials
4. Year executed

An example of an appropriate file name: 1\_Smith\_DigitalPhoto\_2015.jpg

### *Acceptable file formats*

The following formats are acceptable in your digital portfolio: JPG, TIFF, PDF.

## Statement of Intent

Your statement of intent should not exceed one typed page

The Statement of Intent/Artist Statement explains why you are/are interested in becoming an Art Major at NSU and what you intend to do as an artist/designer. It should:

- describe your specific artistic interests
- explain how your artistic interests are reflected in the submitted artwork
- include a statement of your goals as an artist/designer

Be accurate in spelling, grammar and word usage. Please use a legible typeface set at 12pt, double spaced with 1" margins on all sides of an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper.

### *Acceptable file formats*

Please submit supplemental information (statement and unofficial transcripts) in the following format: PDF or .doc or .docx

## Portfolio Review Checklist

- Unofficial Transcript
- Statement of Intent
- Digital Portfolio

*Students are evaluated based on the following criteria.*

### Foundation Skills:

- Design skills
- Color mixing and use
- Observational drawing
- Figure Drawing

### Fluency with Materials and Visual Problem Solving:

- Technical skills: craftsmanship
- Manipulation of surface and space
- Diverse and appropriate materials and techniques
- Evidence of good revision of work in progress
- Work ethic and commitment to the work

### Critical Thinking and Commitment:

- Connection between visual form, construction and concept
- Development of interesting and original ideas
- Innovation and imagination

### Historical and Contemporary Context:

- Evidence of art historical knowledge and reference
- Respect for traditional approaches
- Awareness of contemporary concerns
- Knowledge and appropriate use of personal sources

### Professionalism:

- Knowledge of discipline-specific technical and safety concerns
- Professional presentation and documentation of work