

MASSART

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE
OF ART AND DESIGN

Graduates: Jobs and Careers

IMPORTANT SKILLS

When asked the following, "What have you learned in the past year that you wish you had learned before you graduated?" The top three responses offered by new graduates are:

- The importance of completing an internship before graduating
- The necessity of mastering computer skills
- The value of acquiring business skills

INTERNSHIPS: Career Services lists between 350-400 credit bearing internships (both paid and unpaid opportunities) each year. Students are encouraged to complete one or two internships before graduation. Although a few internships may be open to new graduates, opportunities are very limited for those who cannot earn academic credit for an internship. Assistance with resumes and cover letters, required to apply for most internships, is also available.

COMPUTER SKILLS: Current and prospective students should be aware that all employers expect a certain level of computer proficiency, especially in the design and media professions (e.g. CAD, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Maya, Flash, Final Cut Pro etc). For those seeking administrative or non-art opportunities, competence with word processing, spreadsheets, presentation software, and internet research, as well as familiarity working with both Macs and PCs are critical.

BUSINESS SKILLS: The Career Services office has a career library that includes Business and Legal Forms for: Fine Artists, Photographers, Crafts, Graphic Designers, Industrial Designers and Illustrators by Tad Crawford (Allworth Press). Fall and spring semester career workshops include business related presentations. All career services workshops and presentations are listed online in the MassArt Events Calendar.

THE STRATEGIC NATIONAL ARTS ALUMNI PROJECT (SNAAP)

In the fall of 2016 MassArt participated in an alumni survey conducted by the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAAP). Alumni who earned degrees from 1980-2015 were included in the survey population. The national report summary from SNAAP 2016 includes the following findings:

- Over six in ten (67%) currently work in the arts in some capacity, as an artist (56%), teaching art (28%), and/or administering a business or organization in the arts (19%). Many alumni are working in more than one of these capacities.

- More than 90% reported that their institution contributed "very much" or "some" to acquiring or developing skills and abilities in broad knowledge and education, improving work based on feedback from others, enhancing creative thinking, problem solving, and artistic technique.

- Half of alumni surveyed "strongly" or "somewhat" agreed that their institution integrated all aspects of career development, and that they took full advantage of career services while at their institution.

- Recent alumni (83%) are also more likely than older alumni (79%) to "strongly" or "somewhat" agree that their institutions exposed them to a broad network of artists, leaders, and scholars through special programming.

- Alumni also noted areas where their alma mater could emphasize more skill development. The top three skill areas identified include financial and business management skills, entrepreneurial skills, as well as networking and relationship building skills.

A DESIGN CAREER

Entry level opportunities for graphic, fashion, architectural and industrial designers are linked primarily to commercial industries. Boston is recognized nationally as a strong professional design center and companies often tap the talent of MassArt. The most successful applicants for design positions have completed internships and have practiced their presentation skills, either in an internship or for a classroom project.

A CAREER IN FINE ART

A fine art career that provides sustainable income through the creation and sale of art is a goal that develops over the working life of an artist. Fine Artists pursue a professional art career by entering competitive exhibitions, selling their work, seeking grants and residencies, and continuing to make art in the years following graduation.

Similar to liberal arts graduates, MassArt alumni possess a wide range of values, interests, skills, and abilities; important components for career and employment success. MassArt graduates may choose to pursue art related employment or search for other job options. Graduates might choose to build their freelance client base, advance their fine art career or move in these directions over time. As with all life decisions, employment and career paths are unique to the individual graduate.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Current students and alumni of our BFA, MFA, and Certificate programs are welcome to utilize the full resources available in the Career Development Office. Our online database offers current students and alumni a personal account to search for full-time, part-time, seasonal, and freelance jobs, art and design internships and student scholarships. Their account includes access to the career resource library. Our annual Internship & Job Fair is held each spring semester and attracts 30-35 employers and 300-400 students.

In the classroom, Career Development staff partner with faculty to offer workshops, presentations, employer portfolio reviews and internship orientations. The liberal arts course, *Financial Literacy & Careers* (LASS 230/3 credits), offers undergraduate students practical knowledge about personal finance as well as Career Development resources, exploring career options and job search tools (LinkedIn, networking, resume, cover letters, interviewing skills). Career Development also manages the 3 credit internship program as well as the \$2,000 State University Internship Incentive program for eligible undergraduate students.

To see the gallery of work of our current students, alumni, faculty and staff, please visit portfolios.massart.edu. Resume and cover letter assistance and career guidance appointments are also available.

To visit us online:
MassArt.edu/careerdevelopment

MassArt Internship Stories:
www.facebook.com/pg/MassArtCareerDevelopment/photos/
www.portfolios.massart.edu

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Graduates: Jobs and Careers With Comments from the Director Of Career Services

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL SURVEY OF BFA GRADUATES 2009-2017*

Academic Area	Majors in this Academic Area	Portion of graduates who responded	Response rate	Employed full-time or part-time	Job is Related to Field of Study	Did an Internship	Internship was Related to Position	Doing Freelance	Making Art as Professional Artist	Median salary of Students Employed Full time
Art Education	Art Education	54/147	37%	87%	87%	85%	83%	15%	65%	\$25,000
Art History	Art History	22/83	27%	68%	60%	64%	71%	27%	41%	\$20,000
Fine Arts 2D	Painting, Printmaking	74/253	29%	72%	64%	57%	86%	22%	81%	\$25,000
Fine Arts 3D	Sculpture, Fibers, Ceramics, Metals, Glass	99/332	30%	71%	71%	58%	82%	23%	71%	\$25,000
Environmental Design	Fashion Design, Industrial Design, Architectural Design	105/398	26%	77%	85%	79%	94%	39%	8%	\$35,000
Communications Design	Graphic Design, Illustration, Animation	203/696	29%	79%	81%	64%	89%	61%	22%	\$35,000
Media & Performing Arts	Film and Video, SIM, Photography	110/434	25%	75%	56%	58%	84%	43%	58%	\$25,000
Total	All majors	667/2,343	28%	84%	74%	77%	91%	58%	53%	\$25,000

* In 2014 and 2015 outside contractors collected and compiled information which cannot be combined with internal survey data.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY

The office of Institutional Research contacts new graduates beginning in December, six months after graduation, to complete this survey about employment, job search experience, fine arts activities and overall satisfaction with college programs. MassArt averages 250-350 BFA degrees. In May 2017, 372 undergraduates received a BFA degree. The major with the most students was Illustration (56). Printmaking had the fewest (4). Responses from graduates from 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2016, and 2017 are included in this report.

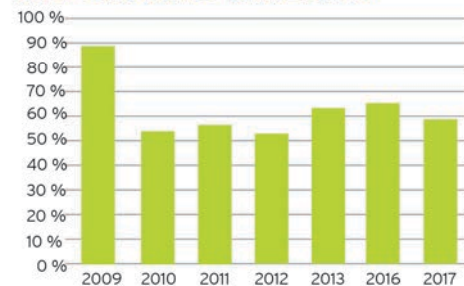
RESPONSE RATES

The goal of the survey is to achieve a statistically valid representation of graduates' experience by contacting all graduates. Survey outreach includes repeated contact through email, postcards and phone calls. Overall, there was a 28% response rate for the years surveyed.

RATE OF EMPLOYMENT

Respondents graduating in 2009 (89%), 2010 (52%), 2011 (55%), 2012 (51%), 2013 (61%), 2016 (64%) and 2017 (56%) indicated they were employed in either full-time or part-time positions.

PERCENTAGE OF BFA SURVEY RESPONDENTS EMPLOYED



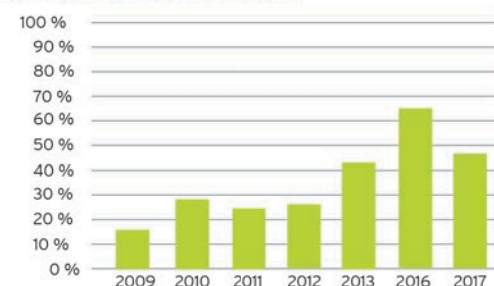
SALARY

In 2017 the median annual salary of BFA graduates who responded and were employed full-time was \$30,000.

FREELANCE

A MassArt graduate's career may include freelance work. Similar to a fine artist, over half of MassArt designers also choose to build their freelance client base. This may be for income, in addition to a full-time or part-time job, or to exercise creativity. Working freelance requires an understanding of basic business interactions including building a freelance client-base, maintaining client relationships, creating estimates and invoices, and managing accounts and taxes. Career Services lists current freelance jobs, offers resources and encourages students and alumni to take advantage of the professional associations that are active in Boston and throughout New England.

PERCENTAGE OF BFA SURVEY RESPONDENTS DOING FREELANCE WORK



THE VALUE OF INTERNSHIPS

In the 2018 National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Job Outlook survey, employers were asked how they would choose between two otherwise equally qualified candidates. The deciding factor is whether the candidate completed an internship with the hiring organization, and second, whether the candidate has internship experience within the hiring industry. MassArt students are encouraged to complete one or two credit-bearing internships before they graduate. Many companies and organizations including Telluride Film Festival, Harvard Art Museums, Massachusetts General Hospital, WGBH, Museum of Fine Arts/Boston, Boston Magazine and the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston have hired MassArt interns. Internships offer evidence of practical skills and experience the students have gained, valuable career related insight, networking opportunities, and valuable references for future employment.

RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Eighty four percent of respondents from the class of 2009-2017 indicated they were employed. MassArt graduates have applied their skills in a range of occupations. 78% of 2017 respondents indicated that their employment was either directly related or somewhat related to their field of study.

Animation:

Visual Director, *Icon Interactive*

Architecture:

Project Coordinator, *Gresham Smith & Partners*,
Summer Studio Teacher, *MassArt*
Architectural Designer, *Kenyon Bolton & Associates*

Art Education:

Art Instructor, *Honolulu Art Museum*,
Art Teacher, *Dever Elementary School*

Art History:

Art Handler, *Turning Art*

Ceramics:

Graduate Assistant, *Colorado University- Boulder*

Fashion Design:

Maestro, *Converse*
Rhinestoner, *Sondra Celli*
Assistant Graphic Designer, *Alan Blizerian*
Hair Stylist, *Judy Jetson Inc.*
Founder/Designer, *PETSON*

Fibers:

Stitcher, *Boston Ballet*

Graphic Design:

Graphic Designer, *Hasbro Inc.*
UX Designer, *Boston Logic*
Senior Graphic Designer, *Neoscape*
Associate Designer, *WGBH*
Marketing Designer, *Privy*

Illustration:

Studio Designer, *Brewster Home Fashions*
Art Instructor, *Museum of Fine Arts*
Visitor Assistant, *Institute of Contemporary Art*
Fabricator, *Design Communications*

Industrial Design:

Design Strategist, *Continuum Innovation*
Sales Associate, *The Container Store*
AmeriCorps Member, *Alpine Achievers Theater Designer*

Jewelry/Metalsmithing:

Engraver, *Rader's Engraving*
Photographer, *Direct Premium Buys*

Painting:

Multimedia Graphic Designer, *CRASHarts*
Owner, *PaintWithMeBoston.com*
Youth Educator, *Norfolk Botanical Gardens*

Photography:

Art Handler, *Treflers*
Teacher, *Belmont Hill School*

Printmaking:

Prop Production Assistant, *Color Correct USA*

Studio for Interrelated Media (SIM):

Multimedia/Event Associate, *Price Intelligently*
President/CEO, *Dick Lynn Studios*
Gallery Guide, *Solomon R Guggenheim Museum*

ALUMNI PROFILES

ERIN ROBERTSON: BFA '16

Major: Fashion Design and Fibers

Current Job: Fashion Designer



"It's really strengthened me and given me the courage and the strength to take all the things that I've learned at MassArt, and all the hard work that I've done, and apply that into creating a business."

SAM OKERSTROM-LANG: BFA '14

Major: Studio for Interrelated Media

Current Job: Media Artist and Designer

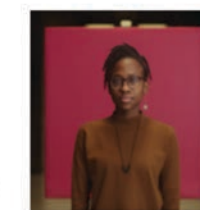


"It's extremely fulfilling to know that I can be creative and use my craft to make art, to make money, and present that to people that enjoy it"

SABRINA DORSAINVIL: BFA '12

Major: Industrial Design

Current Jobs: Civic Design and Program Manager, Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics

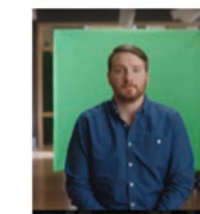


"MassArt helps you find your community. MassArt taught me to trust myself, to believe in myself, and to imagine a world beyond what I was told."

BRIAN BUDAK: BFA '08

Major: Film/Video

Current Jobs: VFX Artist and Video Editor



"My biggest takeaway from MassArt was learning how to see...I use that every day in my job."