Studio Art

Studio Art examines two and/or three-dimensional art design concepts and elements. Studio art students will develop skills, sensitivity, and aesthetic judgment while pursuing individual interests within studio areas such as drawing, painting, printmaking, fibers, ceramics or sculpture. A background in the visual arts can provide a variety of opportunities in the areas of studio art, art organizations, and applied design.

The BFA degree in Art with a concentration in Studio Art at Colorado Mesa University combines strong curriculum requirements in design, drawing, studio (either two or three-dimensional), and art history. CMU provides numerous internship and exhibition opportunities and resources, as well as student clubs and national and international travel opportunities. The Studio Art program culminates in a senior exhibition in the University Center art gallery. Upon graduation students are prepared to pursue a career as an artisan or continue with graduate studies in art.

A person in this career field may:
• Create original works of art for display or commercial use.
• Etch, carve, paint, and/or draw artwork on materials, such as stone, glass, canvas, and wood.
• Develop drawings, diagrams, and models of subjects for use in publications, research, academia, entertainment, and/or teaching.
• Communicate with clients to develop projects according to their specification.
• Study diverse styles, techniques, colors, textures, and materials used by other artists to duplicate or interpret new pieces of art or in the reconstruction or restoration process of an original piece.

Major Skills & Characteristics
• Basic reading, writing, and editing skills
• Creative and Imaginative
• Effective oral, written, and technological communication skills
• Fine motor skills
• Flexible
• Self-motivating
• Work independently or in teams

Organizations That Commonly Employ Art Majors
• Adult & community programs
• Advertising agencies
• Apparel manufacturers/textile mills
• Art studios
• Auction houses, photo agencies & studios
• Department/retail stores
• Government & private museums/galleries
• Hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers & guidance facilities
• Interior design departments
• Local historical societies
• Libraries
• Media and publishing houses
• Magazines/newspapers & trade publications
• Media and entertainment production companies
• Public/private art schools
• Private/local arts councils

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Related Career Titles

- Advertising Artist
- Airbrush Artist
- Animator
- Antiques Dealer
- Architectural Model Builder
- Architectural Renderer
- Art Administrator
- Art Buyer
- Art Consultant
- Art Critic
- Art Dealer
- Art Director
- Art Exhibition Coordinator
- Art Graphic Assistant
- Art Historian
- Art Therapist
- Art Teacher
- Artist’s Agent
- Audio Visual Artist/Designer
- Bank Note Designer
- Billboard Artist
- Book Illustrator/Designer
- Bookplate Artist
- Calligrapher
- Caricaturist
- Cartoonist
- CD/Record Cover Designer
- Ceramic Artist
- Cinematographer
- Color Expert
- Costume and Mask Designer
- Courtroom Sketcher
- Curator or Assistant
- Decorator
- Designer
- Display Artist
- Drafter
- Editorial Illustrator
- Engraver
- Etcher
- Exhibit Designer
- Fabric Designer
- Fashion Artist/Designer
- Floral Designer
- Furniture Designer
- Gallery Owner
- Glass Blower
- Graphic Arts Technician
- Graphic Designer
- Graphic Artist
- Greeting Card Artist
- Illustrator
- Interior Decorator
- Jewelry Designer
- Label Designer
- Landscape Designer
- Layout Artist
- Magazine Designer/Illustrator
- Mannequin Decorator
- Mechanical & Production Artist
- Medical Illustrator
- Memorial Designer
- Millinery Designer
- Motion Picture Scenic Designer
- Municipal Graphic Designer
- Mural Artist
- Museum Artist
- Printing Designer
- Product Designer/Illustrator
- Quick Sketch Artist
- Sculptor
- Set Designer/Illustrator
- Silhouette Artist
- Silkscreen Artist
- Stained Glass Artist
- Stencil Cutter
- Still Photographer
- Textile Designer
- Topographer
- Toy Designer
- Trademark Designer
- Typographical Artist

Note: Some of the occupation listed above may require additional education, experience, or training beyond a Bachelor’s Degree. Please use the Career Research Resources links below to research these occupations.
Career Research Resources:
Use these sites to research information about specific occupations such as nature of the work, training or qualifications, employment or job outlook, projections, earnings and wages.

O*NET-Online: http://www.onetonline.org
The U.S. Department of Labor
• In the occupational search box type in key words, job titles, or occupational codes to research various careers.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics
• View OOH information on Studio Artists at http://www.bls.gov/ooh/arts-and-design/craft-and-fine-artists.htm
• Use the A-Z index to select the occupation you are researching.

My Future.com: http://www.myfuture.com
The Department of Defense
• This site compiles information from departments of Commerce, Education and Labor.

Organizations and Associations Links
• American Art Therapy Association: www.arttherapy.org
• American Association of Museums: www.aam-us.org
• Artisans of Colorado: http://www.artisansofcolorado.com
• Colorado Council of the Arts: http://www.coloarts.state.co.us
• College Art Association (CAA): http://www.collegeart.org
• Global Museum: www.globalmuseum.org
• National Art Education Association: www.naea-reston.org
• National Association of Schools of Art and Design: http://nasad.accredit.org
• NYFA Interactive (New York Foundation for the Arts): www.nyfa.org
• Printing Industries of America: www.printing.org
• Smithsonian Institution Career Center: www.sihr.si.edu
• Society of Illustrators: www.societyillustrators.org

Job Listings/Job Search Sites:
• 3D Café: www.3dcafe.net
• ArtHire.com: www.arthire.com
• Art Staffing.com: www.artstaffing.com
• Arts Opportunities: www.artopportunities.org
• Museum Employment Resources Center (MERC): www.museum-employment.com
• MuseumJobs.com: www.museumjobs.com
• The Riley Guide: www.rileyguide.com

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