REQUIRED APPLICATION INFORMATION AND DEADLINES

All candidates must submit an online application as directed below. The online application is found at samfoxschool.wustl.edu/admissions/graduate. All parts of the application are due by January 15, 2015. Please note: Candidates cannot apply for spring enrollment.

The following application materials may be submitted in stages; we may receive any of the hard-copy items before or after you have started the online application process. All materials must be submitted by the January 15 deadline. No applicant will be considered for admission until all required items have been received by the Graduate School of Art.

Online Application Materials:
1. Academic information.
2. Articulate written statement of objectives for graduate study (500-750 words) that includes information relevant to the applicant’s work. The statement should not be exclusively a personal narrative, though it may be pertinent to include a minimum amount of personal information.
3. Unofficial transcripts from all post-secondary academic and art studies. Upload a pdf version of your unofficial transcripts from all post-secondary academic and art studies. In addition, you must arrange to have the official transcripts submitted to our office (see Hard-Copy Application Materials section for guidelines).
4. Resume or curriculum vitae (CV).
5. Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic module score is required if the applicant’s native language is not English. In addition to entering your score online, the official scores must be submitted to our office by the testing agency (see International Applicants section).
6. Personal information.
7. Three recommendation letters. Applicants must have three letters of recommendation written by professors, instructors, or professionals with whom they have recently worked or studied. These letters are required. Recommenders should use the online application link to upload a copy of the letter text into the application, along with their contact information, including an e-mail address.
8. A non-refundable $85 application fee, paid online by credit card.
9. 15-20 images and/or samples of time-based media (see Visual Materials/Portfolios section for guidelines).

*Please note: The Graduate School of Art does not require the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) for admission to the program.

Hard-Copy Application Materials:
The following application materials must be submitted directly to our office at the address listed on the last page of this instruction sheet.
1. **Official transcripts from all post-secondary academic and art studies.** Photocopies or digital copies can only be accepted when endorsed with an official stamp or seal and an appropriate official signature. Please arrange to have the official transcript(s) submitted in hard-copy form in a sealed envelope from each institution directly to the Graduate School of Art; the mailing address is listed on the final page of this instruction sheet.

2. **Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic module score is required if the applicant’s native language is not English.** The official scores must be submitted to our office by the testing agency (see International Applicants section).

**Visual Materials/Portfolios**
Applicants must submit 15-20 images or samples of time-based media in a Mac OS format. Applicants should select work that does not look assignment-driven and that demonstrates potential for accomplishment in further creative study. The work presented—regardless of media—should be the best examples of the applicant’s work.

Specifications for submitted work:
- Images (up to 5MB each): Each still image should be submitted in .jpg format, no larger than 800 pixels on the longest side and no larger than 72 dpi overall.
- Video (up to 250 MB each): Must be in a Quicktime-compatible format: .mpeg, .mov. Each submission should be no longer than 5 minutes in length.
- Audio (up to 30MB each): Acceptable format: .mp3.
- PDFs (up to 10MB each).
- Models (Sketchfab).
- You may also link to media from YouTube, Vimeo, and SoundCloud.
- Do not use presentation programs (such as PowerPoint) for submission of any of your work.
- All digital files submitted should follow a naming convention that includes your last name and the first initial of your first name, such as: DoeJ_GhostSeries_Image1.jpg.
- Please enter details about each piece you submit, including title, size, medium, and year.

**International Applicants**
Applicants for whom English is not the native language must submit a score report for one of the tests below in order to obtain admission to the MFA program:

1. **A Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)** with a minimum score of 90 on the Internet-based test, 577 on the paper-based test, or 233 on the computer-based test.

2. **International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic module** with a minimum score of 7.5.

To ensure that official TOEFL and IELTS score reports arrive as needed, please use our institution code (6929) and department code (15) when making arrangements with the testing agency. It takes six weeks for your scores to be sent to us, so plan to take the test well in advance of the application deadline (January 15).

The TOEFL and IELTS scores and written essay do not in and of themselves presume adequate
qualification for study. Functional English and familiarity with additional art-related terminology are required upon entrance in order to pass course work. In addition, international students will be interviewed by phone prior to the issue of an I-20 for a student visa.

International students will receive specific instructions regarding the necessary financial documentation for visa purposes when admission letters are issued. For questions regarding non-immigrant student visas, contact Cris Baldwin at 314.935.4761 or crisbaldwin@wustl.edu.

FINANCIAL AID
In the 2014-2015 academic year, full-time tuition in the MFA program at Washington University is $37,180 per year. The cost of tuition plus living expenses for MFA students brings expenses to an estimated annual (9-month) total of $61,180.

An application for financial aid will have no effect on the admission decision. Fellowship, scholarship, and assistantship awards are based on artistic and academic merit. Loan assistance is awarded based on financial need. The Graduate School of Art strives to provide aid to as many fellows as possible. Financial aid packages most often consist of a combination of fellowships or scholarships, teaching and/or technical assistantships, and loan assistance.

Admissions and awards of financial aid are for the specific academic year, but accepted applicants may request deferment of admission for up to one year. Fellowship, scholarship, and assistantship awards are renewable for the second year of study. You must reapply for loan assistance each year.

Graduate School of Art Scholarships
All students applying to the MFA program are automatically considered for all graduate art scholarships. No additional application is necessary. Scholarships are awarded by the Graduate Admissions Committee, and amounts are based on the strength of the student’s application and portfolio.

University-wide Scholarships
Some University-wide fellowships and scholarships open to applicants to the MFA program do require the submission of separate applications. These opportunities include the Mr. and Mrs. Spencer T. Olin Fellowship for Women (http://pages.wustl.edu/olinfellowship) and the Chancellor’s Graduate Fellowship Program (http://pages.wustl.edu/cgfp), as well as the McDonnell International Scholars Academy (http://mcdonnell.wustl.edu), whose funding is intended for graduates of select universities outside the United States. Please visit the appropriate websites for further information and to determine whether you might qualify to pursue any of these funding opportunities.

Teaching Assistantships
Students are awarded teaching assistantships based on the strength of their applications and portfolios. Teaching assistants generally work about 10 hours a week and earn up to $2,000 a semester. Students are paid on a biweekly schedule for work completed. Teaching assistantships are limited in number for first-year MFA candidates; notification of this award will be included in any scholarship offer. All second-year MFA candidates are eligible for a teaching assistant position.
Federal Student Loans

U.S. Citizens and U.S. Permanent Residents are eligible to borrow loans through the Federal Student Aid program. Applicants must submit the federal government’s Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which can be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. **Applicants must submit this form by February 15 in order to be eligible to receive student loans.** When completing the FAFSA, please include Washington University’s code (002520) in Step 6 of the form to ensure financial data will be received as needed.

CONTACT INFORMATION

All inquiries pertaining to the curriculum and admissions should be directed to:

Patricia Olynyk, Director
Graduate School of Art
Phone: 314.935.8423
Fax: 314.935.6462
olynyk@wustl.edu
samfoxschool.wustl.edu/gradart

All questions about financial aid should be directed to:

Brian Higginbotham, Financial Aid Associate
Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts
Phone: 314.935.3642
Fax: 314.935.6462
higginbotham@wustl.edu

Mailing Address:
Graduate School of Art
Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts
Washington University in St. Louis
Campus Box 1031
Bixby Hall, Suite 1
One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63130-4899

Washington University encourages and gives full consideration to all applications for admission, financial aid, and employment. The University does not discriminate in access to, or treatment in or employment in, its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, veteran status, disability, or genetic information. Inquiries about compliance should be addressed to the University’s Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, Washington University, Campus Box 1184, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis MO 63130.