MFA IN APPLIED CRAFT + DESIGN

PACIFIC NORTHWEST COLLEGE OF ART

oregon college of art and craft
DESIGN THINKING WITH THE HAND.
The MFA in Applied Craft & Design offered jointly with Oregon College of Art and Craft connects design thinking to design doing in a unique MFA program grounded in hands-on making, entrepreneurial strategies, and social and environmental engagement.

You’ll work one-on-one with nationally and internationally recognized visitors: designers, makers, and scholars.

Our mentor-based approach coupled with a self-directed curriculum enables you to craft your own path through the program.

We focus on the development of a strong artistic voice, the realization of work for a specific community or client, and entrepreneurship that connects making a living with making a difference.
Connecting design thinking to design doing, Oregon College of Art and Craft and Pacific Northwest College of Art have collaborated to create a unique MFA Program grounded in hands-on making, entrepreneurial strategies, and social and environmental engagement.

Combining a mentor-based approach with an exceptional visiting artists program, students work one-on-one with nationally and internationally recognized designers, makers, and scholars in a self-directed curriculum that challenges them to bring to life the full strength of their ideas and skills.

With a curriculum focused on the development of a strong artistic voice, the realization of work for a specific community or client, and entrepreneurship that connects making a living with making a difference, the MFA in Applied Craft and Design is the only graduate program of its kind.

**DESIGN BUILD**

The first year of the MFA in AC+D begins with an intensive design build project facilitated by leading designers and makers. Over a two-week period, students meet with stakeholders and clients to identify goals and needs for the project, collaboratively brainstorm possible solutions, and consider material and budget limitations. The project finishes with the collective fabrication and installation of the final product. Project facilitators, who have included Butch Anthony, Steve Badanes, Jack Sanders, and Portland designers Sara Huston and Kari Merkl, model the skills for hands-on engagement, effective time management, and strong client relations. This rigorous project requires teamwork, teaches effective collaboration, and reveals the importance of process. Incoming students learn the strengths and weaknesses of their peers, practice effective communication, and gain familiarity with studio workshops and tools to establish a strong foundation for the rest of their graduate experience.

**AZ RESIDENCY**

Each year we take our students out of the studio and into the world for short immersive trips including residencies at AZ West, CA and the Judd Foundation in Marfa, TX. Andrea Zittel’s outpost is located in the California High Desert next to Joshua Tree National Park and the students sleep in glass camping pods at the Wagon Station Encampment. Day trips include Salvation Mountain, the Noah Purifoy Foundation, and sound bathing at the Integratron. While in Marfa, the students stay at El Cosmico and engage Judd Foundation properties such as Donald Judd’s formerly private living and working spaces La Mansana de Chinati / The Block and The Studios: Architecture Studio, Art Studio, Cobb House & Whyte Building. Day trips include Judd’s permanent installation in the Chihuahuan Desert, Prada Marfa, Ballroom Marfa, Chinati, and many galleries and designer/maker studios. El Cosmico is an 18-acre trailer, tent and teepee hotel and campground in Marfa, TX. Built in response to its surrounding landscapes, its aesthetic is influenced more by nomadic cultures than modern. Both AZ West and El Cosmico embrace communal kitchens and outdoors showers and unmediated, unplugged experiences.

**THIRD-YEAR FELLOWSHIP**

The Third-Year Fellowship is awarded each spring to a graduating AC+D student. Fellows are provided with a space in the AC+D studio and have complete access to equipment, facilities, and faculty, enabling them to continue to refine the ideas and skills they have developed in the program. The Fellow becomes a resource for first- and second-year students, sharing his or her experience and perspective.

**ENTREPRENEURIAL FELLOWSHIP**

The AC+D Entrepreneurial Fellowship is an opportunity for graduates to continue the development of an Entrepreneurial Practicum project. The Entrepreneurial Fellowship helps foster the success of the early stages of a multi-faceted endeavor by providing access to the resources and community of AC+D. In this exchange, the Entrepreneurial Fellow is granted the following opportunities to take the next steps in launching their proposed enterprise: a stipend to cover expenses, space at the Bison Building, time in the studio, access to the facilities, access to Creative Entrepreneurship faculty and course auditing.

**MFA IN APPLIED CRAFT + DESIGN**

WITH

OREGON COLLEGE OF ART AND CRAFT

+ acd-ocac.pnca.edu
CURRICULUM

With student's individual spaces located in a workshop environment, Studio Practice embraces an approach to design rooted in the culture of making. Students work one on one with a different mentor each semester to address their specific interests and goals.

Through Critique Seminar, students engage in thorough, critical analysis of work-in-progress. Frequent discussions and critiques with visiting artists, designers and guest critics help students develop skills in rhetoric.

Creative Entrepreneurship courses provide a comprehensive introduction to establishing and sustaining a creative entrepreneurial endeavor, with an emphasis on professional arts practices and strategies for small businesses.

In Critical Studies, students develop in-depth knowledge of social and environmental movements in craft and design history, articulate positions concerning contemporary craft and design theory, and place current trends in making into a global context.

The Practicum is similar to a thesis, but emphasizes a practical application of knowledge or skill in a new way. Students conduct in-depth, practice-based research in producing a capstone project that is understood in relationship to its cultural context as well as the student’s career path.

Electives allow students to hone techniques in making, participate in internships, global studios, or further pursue courses in history, theory, and criticism. Students are required to take 2 electives at level 200 to 600 (graduate level options at 500 and above).

Examples of Graduate level electives:

“...there is kind of a ‘can do’ attitude about this program. It is a particular honor for me to be involved with the students here and to be involved in a program where you make things. When you make something yourself it is really different from when you draw something and have it made.”

— Steve Badanes, Chair of the Neighborhood Design Build Studio, University of Washington, AC+D Program Advisor
HEIDI SCHWEGLER
Chair, MFA in Applied Craft + Design

Heidi Schwegler explores a wide range of materials in the service of her subject matter. She is drawn to the peripheral ruin, modifying discarded objects to give them a new sense of purpose. There is an equilibrium inherent in such things – they float between endurance and decay, a living death. Her numerous exhibitions include the Co/Lab Art Fair (CA), Raid Projects, (CA), Platform China (Beijing), Scope Art 2004 (NY), and the Hallie Ford Museum (OR). Schwegler is a Ford Family Fellow, a MacDowell Colony Fellow, a Yaddo Artist in Resident and has received several RACC Individual Project Grants. Reviews of Schwegler’s work have appeared in Art in America, Daily Serving, ArthNews and the Huffington Post. She is represented by Ufor Gallery in Portland, OR.

+ heidischwegler.com

BISON BUILDING STUDIO

The MFA Applied Craft + Design Studio is housed in a dramatic 13,500 sf former warehouse space in the Bison Building. Each student has a dedicated individual work space, as well as use of over 6,000 sf of work areas shared between the program’s 30 students.

MFA AC+D students have twenty-four hour access to the exclusive MFA studios at all times during their two years in the program.

Students also have access to all labs, shops, libraries and equipment at the OCAC and PNCA main campuses. Labs are staffed by highly qualified technicians able to provide students with technical assistance and instruction, with specialized equipment for Book Arts, Printmaking, Ceramics, Design, Fibers, Metals, Photography, and Wood. There are several different digital computer labs with professional-level color, large-format printing capabilities.

Each student is provided with opportunities to display work and learn preparatory and installation skills in professional level exhibition spaces.
PORTLAND, OREGON

Portland is an ideal city for making, living, and playing, where graduate students can take advantage of a range of cultural and natural resources. Ecologically minded, environmentally progressive, Portland is flanked by the Columbia River to the north, Mt. Hood to the east, the Pacific Ocean to the west, and the Willamette Valley to the south.

Local cultural institutions such as Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Portland Art Museum, Center for Contemporary Art & Culture, Yale Union, and Northwest Film Center present important contemporary art programming. And Portland is home to numerous creative industries and a thriving community of artists, designers, musicians, and writers with independent spirits and innovative mindsets.

Portland’s cultural and environmental richness is enhanced by personable neighborhoods, an efficient public transportation system, delicious food offerings, and a temperate climate. This eminently livable city provides an ideal backdrop for a graduate education.
APPLICATION
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1
Application form
Application fee
Résumé
Two letters of recommendation
Official transcript from the institution granting applicant’s bachelor’s degree
Proposal essay
Portfolio with image index
Application requirements vary by program. Please see
+ pnca.edu/grad/apply for specific requirements.
+ pnca.edu/graduate
+ admissions@pnca.edu

ADMISSIONS
PNCA accepts competitive candidates representing a wide range of disciplines and distinctly diverse backgrounds. Details regarding specific application requirements for each program can be found at pnca.edu/grad/apply. All materials must be received by the applicable deadline to be considered for admission. Interviews take place roughly one month after the admissions deadline for each program. Applicants may apply for only one graduate program. All accepted candidates must submit a $350 tuition deposit to secure enrollment and eligibility for class registration.
+ pnca.edu/graduate

FINANCIAL AID
Graduate students apply for aid through our FAFSA in the same manner as undergraduate students. PNCA offers Federal Stafford Loans, Graduate PLUS Loans, and institutional aid. All enrolled graduate students are eligible for merit scholarship funds, which are awarded based on the strength of the application. There is no separate application for scholarships.
+ pnca.edu/financialaid

VISITING THE CAMPUS
Graduate tours are by appointment only. Please call 503.821.8972 or email admissions@pnca.edu to schedule a campus visit and learn more about our graduate offerings.

ACCREDITATION
Pacific Northwest College of Art is a co-educational, non-denominational, independent college, providing professional education in the visual arts and granting the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Arts, and Master of Fine Arts degrees. It is the oldest independent college of art in the Pacific Northwest. PNCA is an accredited institutional member of both the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The Council on Postsecondary Education and the U.S. Department of Education recognize both institutional accrediting bodies. PNCA is a member of the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design (AICAD).

NONPROFIT STATEMENT
PNCA is a nonprofit corporation authorized by the State of Oregon to offer and confer the academic degrees described herein, following a determination that state academic standards will be satisfied under OAR 583-030. Inquiries concerning the standards of school compliance may be directed to the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization, 1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 100, Eugene, Oregon 97401.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY
PNCA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, physical disability, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school-administered programs. The college admits qualified individuals without regard to race, color, age, religion, sex, physical disability, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

HALLIE FORD SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
AT PACIFIC NORTHWEST COLLEGE OF ART
The programs of the Hallie Ford School of Graduate Studies at Pacific Northwest College of Art celebrate and support the development of experimental, interdisciplinary, and collaborative creative practices through meaningful faculty-student relationships, engaging seminars, and mentor-guided studio practice.

Students conduct original research and develop new ideas under the guidance of supportive arts professionals whose expertise is specifically attuned to the students’ areas of interest. These mentors work closely with students, individualizing their approach and acting as advocates, critics, and colleagues while encouraging students to continually broaden and deepen their critical investigations through research, experimentation, and exploration.

This is an education that nurtures strong, intelligent, and motivated creative professionals who actively engage to create the kind of world they want to inhabit.

Low-Residency MFA in Visual Studies
MA in Critical Studies
MFA in Applied Craft + Design (offered jointly with Oregon College of Art and Craft)
MFA in Collaborative Design
MFA in Print Media
MFA in Visual Studies
+ pnca.edu/graduate

PACIFIC NORTHWEST COLLEGE OF ART
Pacific Northwest College of Art (PNCA) empowers artists and designers to reimagine what art and design can do in the world. Founded in 1909 in Portland, Oregon, PNCA offers ten Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA) degrees, six graduate degrees including Master of Fine Arts (MFA) and Master of Arts (MA) degrees, a Post-Baccalaureate residency, and a range of Community Education programs for adults and youth.
+ pnca.edu

OREGON COLLEGE OF ART AND CRAFT
Oregon College of Art and Craft is a leading, uniquely small, mentor-based college where students are individually guided to become successful artists and professionals in the fields of creative practice, business, and industry. Students work in small classes with renowned faculty, artists-in-residence, and fellow students to explore innovative, cross-media approaches to making, experiential learning, and conceptual thinking. Located in Portland, our community reflects the ethos that values the hand-made, locally sourced, and ethically entrepreneurial. OCAC is a place where ideas are realized.
+ ocac.edu

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