Admissions

PNCA is a community that will challenge you to do more and to radically reimagine EVERYTHING. Our process for admissions is structured to help us identify prospective students who possess the skills, motivation, and potential to be innovative artists and designers.

DATES, DEADLINES & HOW TO APPLY
pnca.edu/apply
Admissions Office:
503-821-8972 or 1-888-390-7499
admissions@pnca.edu
(all applications are done digitally through our website)

TUITION & FEES
pnca.edu/tuition
Admissions Office:
503-821-8972 or 1-888-390-7499
admissions@pnca.edu

SCHOLARSHIPS, FAFSA & FINANCIAL AID
pnca.edu/financialaid
Financial Aid Office:
503-821-8971
financialaid@pnca.edu

GENERAL QUESTIONS & VISITING PNCA
pnca.edu/visit
Admissions Office:
503-821-8972 or 1-888-390-7499
admissions@pnca.edu
Take a virtual tour of our campus:
pnca.edu/virtual-tour

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY
PNCA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, 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 of the school.

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 states academic standards will be satisfied under OAES 583-030. Inquiries concerning the standards of school compliance may be directed to the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization, 1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 1010, Eugene, Oregon, 97401.

MIND DISCRIMINATION POLICY
PNCA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, physical disability, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies.
We ask big questions, like what can art and design do in the world if we push ourselves to reimagine everything. We take big risks and experiment freely across disciplines. Painters make sculptures and works in VR, designers make films, illustrators make installations and apps. We explore cutting-edge emerging technologies and ancient histories. We value diversity in voices, perspectives, backgrounds, ideas, and works.

A PNCA education empowers you to take risks, to be resilient and persistent, and to be a flexible, creative problem solver.
12 undergraduate programs, endless possibilities.

There are no lecture halls at PNCA. Your professors are working artists and designers with real-world experience. Class sizes are small, and everyone here is deeply committed to art and design.

In every major, you will develop creative, technical, and professional skills, productive studio habits, and the abilities to communicate, collaborate, and think critically about your own work, the work of others, and the world beyond.
Animated Arts
Creative Writing
General Fine Arts
Graphic Design
Illustration
Interactive Design
Intermedia
Painting
Photography
Printmaking
Sculpture
Video + Sound
Animated Arts embraces the hybrid moving image—inviting you to reimagine ways to create frame-based work for multiple contexts combining fine art practices and digital tools.

ROSE BOND
DEPARTMENT HEAD, ANIMATED ARTS
Animator and media artist, Rose Bond has been internationally recognized for her monumental, site-driven animated installations that have illuminated urban spaces in Zagreb, Toronto, Exeter, Utrecht, New York City, and Portland while her direct animation films have been presented at major international festivals including: Annecy, Ottawa, Hiroshima, Sundance, and New York, and are held in the MoMA Film Collection.

She was recently awarded an Oregon Media Arts Fellowship and premiered a multi-channel animated projection for the Oregon Symphony’s performances of Olivier Messiaen’s Turangalîla.

HIGHLIGHT
BOUNDARY CROSSINGS INSTITUTE OF ANIMATION
Boundary Crossings Institute in Animated Arts is PNCA’s biennial summer intensive that brings working professionals, graduate and upper-level undergraduate students to campus for a two-week immersive studio experience on the cutting edge of animation.
Draven Kale

Draven is more than grumpy—he's guilty, grieving, and easily antagonized. His impatience drives him steadily towards his goal of resurrecting Kirby, even to the detriment of himself and others. But really, it's all for a good cause, and no one can tell him differently—not even the person he's trying to revive. What would he do otherwise, face his feelings?

Kirby's Ghost

Inside the container around Kirby's neck is the creature keeping him tied to the mortal world: a mixture of his bone, Draven's blood, and a shard of incredibly powerful, mythical crystal. But only does it allow him to become almost fully corporeal, but he's discovered a whole bunch of growing abilities to go with it: floating, turning invisible and walking through walls is pretty cool, but he knows with enough research, he could do more. Unfortunately, Draven's constant warnings about the crystal's energy running out keep him from experimenting as much as he'd like to.
Creative Writing

at a school of art and design offers you a unique opportunity to explore writing’s relationship to contemporary art through interdisciplinary and hybrid forms.

Creative Writing is centered around creative writing studio classes in a variety of genres to build experience with the art of writing. We explore the use of language as a visual medium and incorporate writing into our visual work. We support both experimental writing practices and those focused on contemporary forms of fiction, poetry, and script writing. Innovation, crossing—and at times erasing—creative boundaries, experimentation with forms and media, and a self-determined path sit at the heart of creative writing at PNCA.

KRISTIN BRADSHAW
DEPARTMENT HEAD, CREATIVE WRITING

HIGHLIGHT
Undergraduate Creative Writing students are welcomed at talks and readings by renowned poets and writers such as CA Conrad, Vi Khi Nao, Brandon Shimoda, da Carter, and Rachel Jamison Webster presented by PNCA’s Low-Residency MFA in Creative Writing program.
A Note From the Author

The thing about hospitals is that no one actually likes them. You need them, they’re necessary. You’re glad they’re there. But no one wants to hang around in them, unless they have to. And historically, situations where you have to hang out in hospitals are not so great.

I have spent a disproportionate amount of my life in Mount Olympus Hospital in Polis, California. It’s just how things shook out for me. It’s not the worst hospital, I guess. I was in an ER once on vacation where someone threw up in a potted plant, and it was still there when I left the next night. So it could be worse. But it’s still, you know, a hospital. Fluorescent lights that hum, waxed tile floors, acoustic tile ceilings with little dots in them, so you have something to count while you wait for the meds to kick in. Three possible wall colors: boring beige, withering white, or medicinal mint. Cafeteria with bad coffee and worse dinner, but like, bizarrely delicious lemon squares. Seriously, have you ever had a hospital lemon square? They’re weirdly good. This isn’t just Mount Oly either, I’ve eaten in more than my fair share of hospital cafés and they just have good lemon squares. I have decided it’s one of life’s great enigmas, which is a list I keep in that back of my notebook.

Other additions to the list are: “Why do all anaestesiologists wear funny things on their heads?” and “Why do some people like mayonnaise so much?”

But I’m getting off track. The point is, I am at the hospital, like, all the time. Hospital waiting rooms are both boring and notoriously poor areas for cell reception so, after awhile, you just start watching. You start listening. You start talking to people you see all the time. Like the girl with the cane covered in roses, or the old woman with the really, really long grey hair, or that motorcycle dude with the red mohawk who comes every time the psychiatric ward has visiting hours. And eventually, people start to tell you things. Or you hear things, or you see things.
General Fine Arts offers broad exposure to the studio arts, with a focus on materials and processes, encouraging you to explore widely while developing competencies in multiple art practices.

While each undergraduate program at PNCA offers some freedom in determining one’s academic path, the GFA program offers maximum flexibility as it permits you to select your core studio courses across studio art practices in departments including Painting, Sculpture, and Printmaking as well as electives across the college. In addition, you’ll take two theory and practice classes which help you situate your work in a larger contemporary and historical context.

EMILY GINSBURG
CHAIR, MEDIA ARTS
DEPARTMENT HEAD,
GENERAL FINE ARTS AND INTERMEDIA

Emily Ginsburg’s conceptually driven work maps physical, written, and spoken behavioral patterns in the context of the everyday through diverse media. These works have been exhibited nationally and internationally as well as commissioned for public art projects at Seattle City Light, Seattle Washington, Portland State University and Cyan/Pdx in Portland, Oregon

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Tabor Robak ’09, who works in new media, was commissioned by Microsoft to develop a work of scale for the facade of their flagship store on 5th Avenue. Robak’s works have been acquired by a number of major museums, including The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Albright-Knox Art Gallery. He is represented by Team Gallery.
In Graphic Design at PNCA, you learn hands-on in a client-focused environment with vibrant, practicing design professionals. You learn the history, principles, and major theories of design while acquiring fundamental skills working with typography and visual systems across technologies. With a focus on the process, you’ll gain core skills in ideation, critical evaluation, and revision to create provocative, relevant design solutions.

**KRISTIN ROGERS BROWN**
DEPARTMENT HEAD, GRAPHIC DESIGN

**Kristin Rogers Brown** is a creative director, educator, and problem solver who believes that form, function, and moments of delight are equally important to strong work and great client relationships. She has spent the last decade using her background in award-winning publications to design experiences and brand strategies across media, all driven by strong content.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**
**Kara Haupt ’15** is the Art Director for the NBC News website. Prior to that, she was web art director for the *New Yorker* and co-led Content and Social Design for the Hillary Clinton campaign.

**HIGHLIGHTS**
**DESIGN LECTURE SERIES**
The Design Lecture Series, co-organized by Bijan Berahimi of FISK and Kristin Rogers Brown, brings cutting edge designers to campus. Past lecturers have included Eike König, Bráulio Amado, Andy Pressman, and Ryan Noon.

**CENTER FOR DESIGN**
Center for Design is PNCA’s in-house professional design studio. Staffed by students, the Center executes design projects for external clients.

**Seventeen**
Illustration

Our underlying philosophy is experience and encounter, inviting students to deeply investigate the interplay of image-making, design thinking, and social engagement.

Illustration fuses the development of personal vision with rigorous professional practice for the responsive skill set required to flourish in a variety of creative markets. Our program combines development of technical skill in traditional studio media and new and emerging technologies with conceptual inquiry to empower you to create visual messages capable of engaging clients and changing culture.

MARTIN FRENCH
CHAIR, DESIGN ARTS
DEPARTMENT HEAD,
ILLUSTRATION

Martin French’s images have won awards of excellence from American Illustration, Communication Arts, Creative Quarterly, Graphis, The Society of Illustrators, Society of Publication Designers, Spectrum, The Art Directors Club of New York, Print, and 3×3. He has received a Gold Medal from the Society of Illustrators in New York, and Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals from the Society of Illustrators in Los Angeles. In 2014 and 2016, Martin was selected for Lüerzer’s Archive 200 Best Illustrators Worldwide.

ALUMNI

Spotlight

Subin Yang ’17 has made lively illustrations, animated illustrations, and design work for clients including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Amnesty International, and Naver.

Samantha Mash ’13 is an award-winning illustrator who has worked with clients including DC Comics, Outside magazine, Planned Parenthood, and New Republic magazine.
Preparing to enter this diverse, ever-evolving field, in Interactive Design you learn to research, design, prototype, and build mobile experiences, social networks, apps, games, wearable devices—any and all things where experience and interaction with a user are central. Embedded in this dynamic studio experience is the study of research tactics, audience and cultural awareness, media literacy, and design psychology.

Interactive Design

places itself at the intersection of digital media, material objects, design systems, and human interaction.

Twelve-five
Interactive Design
In Intermedia, we explore ideas, traditional techniques, and emerging technologies. Our innovative courses emphasize new applications of media, theory and practice, broad cultural perspectives, and critical discourse. You design your own curriculum—drawing both from the major as well as from other courses across majors in art and design. We create, invent, reclaim, and investigate in the context of contemporary culture.

Intermedia supports the development of interdisciplinary work through hybrid practices and exploration of emerging media embedded in conceptual inquiry.

EMILY GINSBURG
CHAIR, MEDIA ARTS DEPARTMENT HEAD, GENERAL FINE ARTS AND INTERMEDIA
Emily Ginsburg’s conceptually-driven work maps physical, written, and spoken behavioral patterns in the context of the everyday. Her sculptures, animations, and works on paper and in sound have been exhibited internationally and commissioned for public art projects at Seattle City Light, Portland State University, and Cyan/PDX. Her work has been published in books such as DATA FLOW, THE MAP AS ART.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Demian DinéYazhi’ ’13 is an award-winning Indigenous Diné transdisciplinary artist born to the clans Naasht’ézhí Tábąąhá (Zuni Clan Water’s Edge) & Tódíchíí’nii (Bitter Water). They have recently exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Henry Art Gallery, Pioneer Works, CANADA, NY, and Cooley Gallery. DinéYazhi’ is the founder of the Indigenous artist/activist initiative, R.I.S.E.: Radical Indigenous Survivance & Empowerment. @heterogeneoushomosexual
As a Painting major, you are encouraged to experiment widely. Painting students make everything from videos and installations to VR projects and performances. Our faculty of professional artists is dedicated to challenging and supporting you as you develop an individual vision, voice, and mastery of forms through rigorous studio practice. Visiting artists, lectures, and critical discourse broaden your perspectives and stimulate your investigations into the historical, cultural, aesthetic, and theoretical contexts of the field.

**Painting** begins with the development of core proficiency in the use of painting and drawing materials, and from there promotes mastery within the discipline while supporting broad interdisciplinary study.

**MORGAN WALKER**
DEPARTMENT HEAD, PAINTING

Morgan Walker’s paintings, drawings, and woodcuts have been exhibited widely. He is a driving force behind PNCA’s F.O.F.U.S., the Friends of Frank Ukulele Society, named after longtime faculty member Frank Irby. Walker is represented by Augen Gallery.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

**Lehuauakea Fernandez ’18** is a mixed Native Hawaiian interdisciplinary artist from Pāpaʻikou, Hawaiʻi. Through a range of craft-based media, notably ‘ohe kāpala, their work explores cultural and biological ecologies, mixed-Indigenous identity and representation, resilience, and environmental degradation.
Two things I know are truths.

We die alone.

And men like to talk a lot about themselves.
Photography

To be a photographer today is to place yourself in the center of a world where image-making possibilities are endless, and where you can decide when to embrace tradition and when to reject it.

Photography as a medium is fluid, dynamic, and constantly re-inventing itself. Thus, in Photography, you build a strong foundation in analog and digital techniques and lighting strategies, explore expansive ways of thinking about and making images, and develop a vocabulary to discuss and critique your work and the work of others. While developing professional proficiency, you learn to communicate powerfully and to critically examine the challenges of photographic expression in the contemporary art landscape.

TERESA CHRISTIANSEN
DEPARTMENT HEAD,
PHOTOGRAPHY

Teresa Christiansen is a visual artist born and raised in New York City. She was a 2007 winner of PDN Photo Annual, a 2013 Regional Arts & Culture Council grant recipient and a summer 2014 Wassaic Artist Resident. Her work is in the collection of the Portland Art Museum.

HIGHLIGHT

The Photography Department underwrites the memberships for students to participate in the Exhibition Committee at Blue Sky, Oregon Center for Photographic Arts, the 40+ year old institution that presents exhibitions of work by emerging and established international photographers.

ALUMNI

SPOTLIGHT

Susan Seubert ’92 was invited to participate in Personal Structures, a collateral exhibition of the Venice Biennale. Organized by the Global Art Affairs Foundation and hosted by the European Cultural Centre, the exhibition at the Palazzo Bembo ran in tandem with the 57th Venice Biennale in 2017.
Printmaking immerses students in traditional and contemporary ideas and processes, emphasizing personal voice and vision, high standards of craftsmanship, and professional practice. Through a rich, interdisciplinary studio experience, you’ll explore intaglio, lithography, relief printing, screenprinting, monotype, letterpress, book-making, artist publications, and digital and 3D printing. The printed multiple is explored and utilized as a means of communication, as a set of objects for dispersal and dissemination, as accumulation and installation, and as material documentation.

Printmaker **Abra Ancliffe** considers the fixity and frailty of language alongside how printed knowledge is created, stored, and accessed. She’s had recent exhibitions in Tækniminjasafn (Seyðisfjörður, Iceland), and Kasteel Le Paige (Herentals, Belgium).

**ABRA ANCLIFFE**
DEPARTMENT HEAD, PRINTMAKING

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**
Artist and technologist, **Jesse Siegel’s ’18** work explores the erasure of culture and nature by economic forces. From Cancun, Mexico, Siegel has exhibited widely and is currently a Master Artistic Research student at The Royal Academy of Art, The Hague.

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Mckenzie Green ’16
*Poolside in Tropico*

Nikole Hoberg ’18
*Arachnophilia Wrapping*

Sara Elizabeth Dolan ’15
*Jules*

Rebecca Giordano ’19
*The Homes We Carry*

Molly Steadman ’16
*Sinuous (back)*

Nicolas Filoseta ’19
*SOMETIMES WE LAY BETWEEN OTHERS, EMPTY*
Sculpture is a radically hybrid zone where traditional craft meets innovative tools, processes, and ideas about what a sculpture can be.

Sculpture encourages you to investigate a wide spectrum of sculptural methods, including stand-alone objects, site-specific works, multiples, installations, sculptural interventions, performance, and any number of hybrid forms of three-dimensional engagement. You will customize your own pathway as you work under the mentorship of master professionals within a collaborative studio atmosphere. You will have full access to PNCA's 3D Labs: wood shop, ceramics studio, and metal shop with foundry, all staffed by on-site technicians.

DAVID ECKARD
DEPARTMENT HEAD, SCULPTURE

Every Focus Week, David Eckard does a multi-hour performance incorporating his sculptures. An award-winning artist, he's exhibited his sculptures and drawings internationally, recently in the Portland 2016 Biennial, at Atelier Dado (Montenegro), and the Centre International D'Art Contemporain (France).

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Israel Lund's '11 abstract paintings, prints, and zines produced using a simplified silk screen process on raw canvas have been widely shown. Lund went on from PNCA to get his MFA from Rutgers and currently lives in Brooklyn, NY. Lund is represented by David Lewis.

Forty-five
Video + Sound invites you into an expansive investigation of moving image and audio culture.

As a Video + Sound student, your work builds on the rich histories and interconnections between video art, sound art, experimental film, and emerging platforms such as virtual and augmented reality. In a hands-on environment, you learn to communicate ideas through structure, pace, rhythm, duration, and the interplay between image and sound. Studio practice and media studies combine in classes where you develop critical, aesthetic, and technical skills vital to cultural production in an evolving digital landscape.

STEPHEN SLAPPE
DEPARTMENT HEAD, VIDEO + SOUND

Stephen Slappe’s newest project, 8, is an immersive, dystopian iOS app available on iTunes. His video installations have been shown internationally at Centre Pompidou-Metz (France), The Horse Hospital (London), The Sarai Media Lab (New Delhi), Centre for Contemporary Art (Glasgow), and Artists’ Television Access.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Ben Glas’17 is an experiential composer based in Berlin where he is pursuing his M.A. in Sonic Studies at the Universität der Künste. Glas’ compositions focus on the realms of subjective perception and cognition, via the use of acoustics, psychoacoustics and space as tools for sonic composition. His work has been presented at the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA), Glasgow’s Radiophrenia festival, the Soundwave Biennial (SF) and the Czong Institute for Contemporary Art (CICA).
Minors help you deepen understanding, broaden the scope of your education through the intentional selection of targeted classes, and communicate your focus in the future with a conferred minor as part of your degree.

Details
Minors are open to students in all majors. Completing a minor does not require you to take additional courses. You simply make your course selections to fulfill the requirements of the minor, choosing from a wide range of 3-credit courses for a total of 15 credits. You work with your Academic Advisor to create an individualized plan that outlines how the minor fits into your course of study and ensures that your curricular choices supports your goals and interests.
ART AND ECOLOGY
In this interdisciplinary minor, you’ll develop a broad understanding of pressing ecological issues and their relationship to the social, political, cultural, and economic systems that impact the future of humanity, other species, and our shared planet. You’ll understand how your own work as an artist or a designer can comment on, interact with, and impact the world.

Course highlights:
ECOLOGY AND RESILIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND ECOLOGY, ART + ECOLOGY: GLOBAL CULTURE AND ECOLOGY

ART HISTORY
Art History examines the breadth of human creativity and considers how it influences and reflects the culture of its time. Power, myth, science, religion, philosophy, and technique are all included. By delving into historical and contemporary artistic tenets and their social contexts, you’ll gain a richer and more diverse visual arsenal which will sharpen your critical faculties and help you develop a deeper understanding of your own work. The Art History minor includes writing and research skills that prepare you for graduate study and professional careers.

Course highlights:
THE MOVING IMAGE, DESIGN HISTORY, ART OF WEST AFRICA, CONTEMPORARY TOPICS, THEORY AND CULTURE OF ART HISTORY

CERAMICS
In this minor, you can choose to focus on clay as a dynamic sculptural medium or material for fabricating wares and functional objects as you develop skills and techniques while gaining a broader understanding of historical precedents and contemporary practices. You’ll work in our Ceramics studio with seasoneds pros to deepen your practice or expand outward into new pathways including entrepreneurial studio strategies.

Course highlights:
CERAMICS 1 AND 2, ADVANCED CERAMICS 3: THE SCIENCE OF CLAY, MOLDMAKING, EXPERIMENTING WITH MATERIALS

CREATIVE WRITING
Creative Writing at PNCA offers a unique opportunity to explore writing’s relationship to contemporary art through interdisciplinary and hybrid forms. Through creative writing studio classes, you’ll explore experimental writing practices including the use of language as a visual medium and incorporate writing into visual work as well as those focused on contemporary forms of fiction, poetry, and scriptwriting.

Course highlights:
INTRO TO SHORT FORMS, EXPANDED POETIC FIELDS, WRITING WITH DIGITAL MEDIA

DRAWING
Drawing is practiced by artists across genres and disciplines as a way to translate ideas to form, and use of drawing in its capacity as an exploratory medium is nearly universal. The Drawing minor offers the opportunity for sustained study and practice of drawing supporting both practices: drawing as exploration and drawing as form.

Course highlights:
THE FIGURE, ADVANCED DRAWING-PROCESS AND IDEA, DRAWING SEMINAR: SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES, AND STRATEGIES

FASHION
Fashion is a minor with a multi-disciplinary approach. We encourage students to delve into material exploration, garment construction, fabric manipulation and embellishment, silkscreen printing, pattern drafting and draping, textiles, concept development, and fashion sketching. The minor invites you to consider fashion as an embedded aspect of contemporary society while exploring the garment itself from many perspectives including costuming, wearable technology, textile design, soft sculpture, performance, and body augmentation.

Course highlights:
SEWING CONSTRUCTION 1, PRINTING ON FABRIC, SOFT SCULPTURE, FASHION MATTERS

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Design shapes the way we interact with the world around us. The same skills that designers use working with clients can also be used to “move” people—more powerful communication, or to create social change. This minor is a way for you to gain fundamental graphic design techniques working with typography and visual systems for a range of technology. You will also gain core skills in ideation, critical evaluation, and revision that you can take into a broad range of careers. A minor in graphic design will give you a general understanding of the many possibilities within design and help you learn to speak the language of design for fruitful collaboration.

Course highlights:
SIGNS + SYMBOLS, TYPOGRAPHY, CULTURE + AUDIENCE, BRAND + MARKETING

GAME
Gaming in both analog and digital formats is one of the most relevant and pervasive forms of entertainment worldwide. Beyond its role in entertainment, social scientists and cultural anthropologists alike have identified gaming as a dominant form of finding contemporary society, using and building community in contemporary society, using game culture has been used as an expressive means of connecting with others. In this minor, you’ll develop a general understanding of the philosophies, systems, and mechanics utilized in contemporary game and interactive design while becoming familiar with processes for research, experimentation, design, prototyping, and production.

Course highlights:
WORLD BUILDING, CHARACTER DESIGN, SCRIPTING, INTERACTIVE AESTHETICS
Liberal Arts
Courses that broaden your understanding of the world, introducing you to multiple perspectives, worldviews, histories, and experiences.

Liberal Arts courses inspire curiosity and new lines of critical inquiry while fortifying your intellectual foundation. You read, research, share what you’ve learned, and engage in impassioned discussion. You learn to synthesize strands of knowledge in a cohesive, elegant manner and to frame and articulate questions and complex ideas.

ART HISTORY
Art History classes help you develop skills in visual literacy, vocabulary, and analysis by introducing the styles, movements, artists, and techniques understood to form cultural traditions. Our unique thematic World Art History survey draws attention to the fact that the world of contemporary art is global and decentralized and emphasizes the connections to sociopolitical, cultural, and economic changes. Our curriculum embraces a diversity of media and helps students situate their own practice within the contemporary, global, and diverse art world. Our courses ask students to consider the following questions: How is the creation, process, appearance, and reception of art dependent on cultural context? How do subjects, impulses, and goals from the past inform contemporary art?

HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, CRITICAL, AND CULTURAL STUDIES
History, philosophy, and critical and cultural studies courses feed your curiosity about the world and its cultures. These courses introduce you to key research practices and help you form the historical, theoretical, and philosophical context for much of your creative work and critical thinking. Courses address a variety of concepts and themes, such as visual culture, identity politics, ontology, ethics and morality, aesthetics, phenomenology, environmentalism, and American politics. You grapple with great philosophical questions, learn to understand historical events and trends, form ethical and moral arguments, experiment with theoretical lenses, and undertake critical inquiries that empower you to present your own ideas in more enlightened ways.

LITERATURE AND WRITING
PNCA’s literature and writing seminars embrace both experimentation and self-examination as well as a passionate questioning of the world in which we live. These seminars address various approaches to textual interpretation, critical thinking, research, and writing. Through close-reading, rigorous research, critical dialogue, and through analysis of text, theory, and history, you learn to shape and present informed ideas in a variety of writing formats that demonstrate clarity, coherence, intellectual force, and stylistic control.

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE
Mathematics and science courses inspire you to critically and imaginatively engage with a complex and evolving world increasingly influenced by data, technology, and science. Our math and science courses emphasize research, debate, and creative inquiry. The curriculum cultivates an appreciation of beautiful ideas and powerful methods and empowers you with the analytical tools, research skills, and knowledge base to reason logically, argue persuasively, and interpret theories in science and mathematics through a creative and considered lens.
International Studies
Transformative international research and learning opportunities to prepare you for an interconnected world.

We recognize how important it is for students at a 21st century art school to develop an awareness of diverse cultures, a sensitivity to cultural difference, and awareness of culture’s formative effects.

Studying internationally can be a life-changing experience. You’ll learn about a different culture, broaden your education with new perspectives, and develop an international network of friends and contacts. On a personal level, your time spent outside of PNCA gives you a new perspective on your own culture and a new understanding of art. The skills you learn abroad can give you a competitive edge in today’s job market as you develop an ability to adapt to diverse situations.

PNCA’s International Office facilitates international research and learning opportunities including both short-term and semester-long programs as well as international exchanges, collaborations, and the promotion of on-campus intercultural experiences. Our Global Learning and Diversity Development Initiative makes global learning opportunities accessible to more students through increased financial support.

GLOBAL LEARNING NETWORK PARTNERS

Arts University Bournemouth
Poole, United Kingdom

Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design
Jerusalem, Israel

Design Academy Eindhoven
Netherlands

Design School Kolding
Denmark

Free Art School Stuttgart, Academy of Art & Design
Germany

Icelandic Academy of the Arts
Reykjavik, Iceland

Konstfack University of Arts, Crafts and Design
Stockholm, Sweden

LUCA School of the Arts-Brussels and Ghent Campuses
Belgium

The Basel School of Design
Switzerland

Universiti Sains Malaysia
Penang, Malaysia

University of Bergen-Faculty of Art, Design, and Music
Norway

York St. John University-Faculty of Art, Design and Computer Science
York, United Kingdom

Zurich University of the Arts
Switzerland
Explore
From day one, you’ll dive right in, learning new ways of making and thinking.

In your Foundation Year, you’ll be immersed from day one in media and making of all kinds—from drawing, design, and sculpture, to digital tools, video, and performance. It’s a year of discovery, a time to explore new ways of making and thinking while integrating into your new community.

Along the way you’ll develop the skills and habits that will help you thrive at PNCA and beyond.

MENTORSHIP
You’ll meet your First Year Mentor during New Student Orientation. This is your go-to person for guidance throughout your Foundation Year. When you declare your major, usually in second semester, you will be connected to your Program Advisor.

FOUNDATION LECTURE SERIES
The Foundation Lecture Series brings working artists to campus for informal talks on their practices and lives as artists.

Experiment
You are free in every major to experiment across mediums and disciplines.

In your Sophomore and Junior years, you’ll take courses from within your chosen major. But we also encourage you to take courses in departments across the college to explore a range of new ideas and possibilities for your work.
Expand

Expand the horizons of your world and your practice.

Here, you learn to see the world more thoughtfully, thoroughly, and from different perspectives. By studying related histories and broadly exploring the contemporary, you expand your ideas around the scope of possibility for your own work and the impacts it can make in the world.

You hone your skills and learn a wide range of new ones. You are introduced to entirely new ways of making, and, just as importantly, you learn to think critically about your work and that of others through a robust critique process where you give and take constructive feedback on a regular basis.

Whatever major you choose, you will develop creative, technical, and professional skills, productive studio habits, and the ability to communicate, collaborate, and think critically, all of which will empower you to build for yourself a fulfilling and sustainable creative life full of possibility.
Senior Year means Thesis at PNCA: the time, support, and resources to plan and produce a significant body of work or ambitious project. With the support of faculty, your peers, and a mentor who works with you one-on-one, you’ll develop a detailed proposal for your project during the first semester and produce it in the second. During your Mid-Term Review, you’ll make a presentation on your work-in-progress to visiting professionals who offer valuable feedback.

Finally, during Focus Week, you’ll install your completed thesis work and make a presentation before a panel of professional artists or designers. For Focus Week, classes are suspended, and the whole PNCA community—students, staff, and faculty—comes together to support seniors as they present their thesis projects.
Addie-Lehuaaukea-Fernandez ’18
Thesis preparation

Kaitlyn Nelson ’17
Enfant Poisson
Performance preparation

Katie Sifford ’16
En Route: Road Trips as Metaphor for Freedom
Exhibition view
We embrace the possibilities of creative technology for artists and designers. Here you'll have access to emerging technologies, experts and peer networks of makers and hackers, animators, game designers, and more to spark curiosity, expand creative horizons, and help you bring your projects to life. Our students design game environments in Unity, create VR experiences, engineer wearable technology, and participate in civic projects like Sensing the Environment.

Make+Think+Code

Make+Think+Code is a technology-focused research studio, institute, creative incubator, and lab that brings together members of Portland’s vibrant creative, tech, civic, and educational communities to explore the powerful role that creativity and technology play in the search for imaginative and impactful solutions to complex and urgent problems.

Make+Think+Code emphasizes the skills of the future—fluency with emerging technologies, creativity, design-thinking, research, and collaboration, preparing a diverse community to actively engage as citizens and to succeed in our growing regional and national creative technology industries.

Make+Think+Code offers our students, undergraduate and graduate, as well as Portland’s creative and tech communities, opportunities to learn about and explore emerging technologies, augmented and virtual reality, (digital) fabrication and prototyping, creative coding, data science, systems-thinking, the internet of things and smart technologies, creative entrepreneurship, STEAM, and privacy and security. We offer a wide range of workshops, institutes, hackathons, and design challenges to foster collaboration and leverage creativity and technology in new and innovative ways.

AMP Lab

The Advanced Media Production (AMP) Lab is PNCA’s new, high-end computer classroom and lab with cutting-edge technology that supports digital-based production for art and design. Labs are open to all majors and Animated Arts, Illustration, Interactive Design, Game, and Graphic Design students work alongside each other supported by staff members.

Ben Purdy
Be Still, My Low-Poly Heart

./SPACEPUNKMEDIA
paint.IR

Giuliano Bruno MFA VS ‘18
A Field of Signs (Room View)
Epson Stylus Pro 9800
Digital Print Studio

HTC Vive Virtual Reality System
Make+Think+Code

Sensing the Environment
prototyping
Make+Think+Code

Wacom Cintiq
AMP Lab
Creative Technology

MakerBot Replicator 2X
Make+Think+Code

Winter Lights Festival 2018

Make+Think+Code
Lab space

SIX: A LIVE SIX SPEAKER SURROUND SOUND SHOWCASE
Presented by the BFA in Video and Sound program
PNCA’s Labs and Facilities provide all of the tools and resources you need. From an expansive Print Studio to our Sound Lab, our Animated Arts Lab to our Professional Digital Fine Art Printing Lab, we’ve got you covered. Our 3D shops support moldmaking and metalworking, glass fusing/slumping, ceramics, and woodworking.
Catherine Ross '18
verfremdung / still shot / phase 2

Wangechi Mutu lecture

Marin Vesely '18
Phasing - Marin V + Proqxis -
Live Set 4/24/18

Finals Party

Shipley/Collins Mediatheque
The Albert Solheim Library and its staff support the curricular, creative, and research needs of the PNCA community. Here you’ll find the tools you need to become a life-long scholar, you’ll learn to use information with integrity and to practice curiosity and determination in knowledge seeking.

In the Academic Support Center, library staff and peer coaches collaborate with students to build skills and confidence in research, writing, and academics through one-on-one appointments, workshops, and group homework and editing support.
PNCA’s Center for Contemporary Art & Culture presents exhibitions by important artists that inspire and ignite conversation. And the CCA&C collaborates with Portland cultural institutions and platforms such as Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Lumber Room, and Converge 45.

PNCA regularly presents lectures by visiting artists who are shaping the contemporary art landscape such as MPA, Sondra Perry, A.L. Steiner, Martine Syms, Wayne Kastenbaum, Katherine Bradford, Aria Dean, Anicka Yi, and Claire Fontaine.

Curators at arts institutions such as PICA, Disjecta, and Yale Union offer mentorships, internships, and conduct special tours of exhibitions for PNCA students. All students get free admission to the Portland Art Museum.

Cauleen Smith
Asterisms
2017
511 Gallery

Takahiro Yamamoto MFA VS ’13
Direct Path to Detour

James Rosenquist
511 Gallery

Alien She
Curated by Astria Suparak + Ceci Moss
Between campus and off-campus galleries and monthly pop-up shops, there are countless opportunities for you to present your work in public exhibitions and performances.
We play as hard as we work with beach field trips, all-school breakfasts and parties, clubs, monthly First Thursday art receptions, and daily afternoon tea in the print studio.
Student Life
Contemporary Student Housing

PNCA's Residence Life program provides a supportive and vibrant environment with in-house social and academic activities as well as events that connect students to the life, culture, and arts of Portland. The Residence Life program includes live-in Resident Advisors (RAs) trained to cultivate a safe and healthy community for our residents.

ArtHouse and Marshall are our dedicated student housing apartment buildings within blocks of PNCA’s main campus building, the Arlene and Harold Schnitzer Center for Art and Design.

ArtHouse features private and shared studios or two-bedroom apartments with in-room washer/dryers, and covered bike storage. Marshall offers shared studios with efficiency kitchens, on-site laundry, and a unique layout to offer more privacy. Both offer high-speed internet and include all utilities.

Nearby are plenty of food options, including restaurants, diners, food carts, the weekend farmers market, and two organic groceries. Portland streetcar lines, rail lines, and bus routes are within blocks of ArtHouse.
BRIDGELAB CAREER SERVICES
BridgeLab Career Services supports your development as a professional artist or designer during your time at PNCA and throughout your career. It’s our goal that you will leave PNCA as a capable, self-reliant, experienced professional. BridgeLab offers a full slate of career development resources that include workshops, information sessions, one-to-one career advising, and networking opportunities.

To connect you with other artists, designers, makers, and business owners, BridgeLab works with community partners who open their doors to PNCA students and alumni for learning experiences including informational interviews and behind the scenes tours. And just last year, 58 alumni returned to campus to do in-class presentations and connect with current students.

Internships
Our robust internship program helps you to gain real world experience in an array of arts nonprofits and business in Portland’s thriving creative industries. We’ve helped students arrange internships with artists, advertising firms, animation studios, galleries, museums, and other creative businesses. Companies such as:


Workshops
We offer workshops and drop-ins on basics like crafting a resume, interviewing skills, and grant writing. And we offer intensives with experts in entrepreneurial skills such as taxes and accounting for artists, contracts and copyright, and marketing yourself and your work.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COURSE
Every student at PNCA takes a professional practice course designed to help you build professional strategies, engage in planning and goal setting, develop and hone a portfolio and ways of communicating about your work, identify opportunities, and establish life habits and entrepreneurial competencies in preparation for postgraduate and/or professional pathways.

At PNCA, our mission is preparing students for a life of creative practice. In addition to developing your practice and learning productive studio habits, we’re committed to helping you develop practical career knowledge and networks for life after PNCA.
Preparing for Life after PNCA

Seventy-nine
Financial Aid
We are committed to making college affordable and accessible for more students.

We award more than $4.8 million in scholarships each year, and every student who submits the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) receives some form of scholarship.

Beginning October 1, just complete the FAFSA online at fafsa.ed.gov to be eligible for a financial aid package made up of:

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Work-study Employment
- Loans

PRIORITY DEADLINE JANUARY 31

SCHOLARSHIPS
Apply for Financial Aid before the priority deadline of January 31 to be automatically considered for PNCA Scholarships, awarded for outstanding creative abilities and academic achievement as well as for demonstrated need.

GRANTS
Everyone who completes a FAFSA is eligible for grants awarded based on demonstrated financial need, including Federal Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Oregon Opportunity Grants, and PNCA Grants.

Only those who have not previously attended PNCA as undergraduate students are eligible for PNCA scholarships.

Learn more: pnca.edu/finaid

Accreditation

MISSION
We prepare students for a life of creative practice.

ACCREDITATION
Pacific Northwest College of Art is a co-educational, nondenominational, independent college providing professional education in the visual arts and granting the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, the Master of Fine Arts degree, and the Master of Arts degree. 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.org).
Admissions

PNCA is a community that will challenge you to do more and to radically reimagine EVERYTHING. Our process for admissions is structured to help us identify prospective students who possess the skills, motivation, and potential to be innovative artists and designers.

DATES, DEADLINES & HOW TO APPLY

pnca.edu/apply
Admissions Office:
503-821-8972 or 1-888-390-7499
admissions@pnca.edu
(all applications are done digitally through our website)

TUITION & FEES

pnca.edu/tuition
Admissions Office:
503-821-8972 or 1-888-390-7499
admissions@pnca.edu

SCHOLARSHIPS, FAFSA & FINANCIAL AID

pnca.edu/financialaid
Financial Aid Office:
503-821-8971
financialaid@pnca.edu

GENERAL QUESTIONS & VISITING PNCA

pnca.edu/visit
Admissions Office:
503-821-8972 or 1-888-390-7499
admissions@pnca.edu
Take a virtual tour of our campus:
pnca.edu/virtual-tour

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 states academic standards will be satisfied under OAS 583-010. Inquiries concerning the standards of school compliance may be directed to the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization, 1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 140, Eugene, Oregon, 97401.

MONODISCRIMINATION POLICY

PNCA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, 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.