

Portfolio Requirements

When deciding which pieces to include in a portfolio, the advice and suggestions of others can be helpful. However, it is important that the applicant makes the final decision and submits a portfolio that best represents those ideas, issues and work that they would like considered in the review process. Though applicants may want to include examples of work from past years, especially to demonstrate growth, it is more important to submit work that represents current skills and experiences. It is also important to submit work that speaks to an applicant's strengths. Submitting work simply to show a range of mediums (such as one charcoal, one scratchboard, one watercolor, etc.) is not recommended if it sacrifices consistency of quality. Each portfolio is unique and will never be compared to another when assessing admission eligibility. The ideal portfolio consists of 15 to 20 pieces of recent artwork.

PORTFOLIO REVIEWS

On campus portfolio reviews are offered Monday through Friday between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM throughout the year. Limited portfolio reviews are also available on Saturdays during Open House and Completion Day events. Applicants should bring examples of recent artwork with them. Work does not need to be mounted or matted. However, the care with which an applicant presents and discusses his/her work can play an important part in the interview. Oversized and three-dimensional work should be submitted in digital (CDR) or print format. To schedule an on-campus portfolio review, contact the Office of Admissions at 800.436.4204 or 212.592.2100 at least two to four weeks in advance.

SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION




To be considered for a scholarship, first-time freshmen must submit all admissions materials (including a digital portfolio on CDR or uploaded to Slideroom.com) postmarked by February 1, 2010. Transfer applicants must submit all admissions materials postmarked by March 1, 2010.

All students who possess a minimum 3.0 GPA and adhere to the above deadlines will be automatically reviewed for scholarship.

Only scholarship winners will be notified of an award.

PORTFOLIO TIPS:

- Oversized portfolios and original work will not be accepted by mail or drop-off. Original artwork should be submitted only during an in-person portfolio review. SVA will not accept personal URLs or Web sites in place of aforementioned portfolio requirements.
- All application materials become the property of SVA and will not be returned.

DEPARTMENT	REQUIREMENTS	FORMAT	DESCRIPTION
Advertising; Animation; Cartooning, Computer Art, Computer Animation & Visual Effects; Fine Arts; Graphic Design; Illustration; Interior Design; Visual & Critical Studies	<p>15–20 images</p> <p><i>Digital images should be submitted on a CDR, DVD, or through Slideroom.com. Each image should be saved as an individual file in .jpg format. Images should be saved at a resolution of 72 dpi, and must be no bigger than 600 pixels in the longest direction.</i></p> <p>Do not combine images in a prepared presentation or slideshow of any type (i.e. PowerPoint).</p>	<p>Digital images or digital upload, slides or prints</p> 	<p>Drawing samples are the most important part of the portfolio for applicants to the majors listed. Please include examples of drawing done from the direct observation of live, three-dimensional situations. These can include self-portraits (using a mirror for reference), figure drawings, object studies, still lifes and landscapes. (Two-dimensional references can be included in a portfolio, but should be kept to a minimum.)</p> <p>Painting, printmaking, drawing and/or collage work that expresses the color sense of an applicant is welcome.</p> <p>Three-dimensional work that explores notions of composition, light, form and/or spatial relations should be submitted in digital format (CD-R) and include shots from multiple viewpoints.</p> <p>Design projects and computer-generated images can be included but should be kept to a minimum. Applicants with computer-based interests are required to submit a portfolio that demonstrates their drawing-from-observation skills.</p> <p>Sketchbooks offer important insights into the creative process of an applicant. The most recent sketchbook is encouraged to be included at the time of a portfolio review.</p>
Photography	<p>15–20 images</p>	<p>Digital images or digital upload, slides or prints</p> 	<p>Photography applicants must submit 15 to 20 photographic images. In addition to subject matter, composition, light, form and spatial relations are important issues to be addressed in the body of work. Contact sheets can serve as sketchbooks and may be submitted as part of the portfolio. Actual prints should only be submitted at the time of an in-person portfolio review. Painting, drawing and images in other media should not be submitted unless it directly relates to the applicant's photographic work.</p>
Film & Video	<p>One 500 word essay & one 1000 word essay</p> <p><i>Film and video production work is not required but highly recommended. Any supplemental film and video work should be submitted on a CD or DVD. No more than two minutes of film or video will be viewed, thus it may be appropriate to submit excerpts of longer works. If you choose to send a CD, please format the video as a .mov file. A written description of the applicant's role in the work should be included. Film and video work cannot take the place of the two-part essay.</i></p>	<p>Word document</p> 	<p>A two-part essay is required. In part one, applicants must describe an imaginative story or significant real-life event in 500 words or less. This essay should be very descriptive and told as a short story with a plot, including a beginning, middle and end. In part two, applicants must adapt that same story into cinematic terms in 1000 words or less, using camera cues, angles and dialog. The essays aren't meant to be scripts or screenplays; instead, by employing these cinematic elements, the applicant as filmmaker should successfully communicate images, ideas and plot. The essays should be typed and double-spaced, and each page numbered and labeled with the applicant's name.</p>

To submit your portfolio online, please visit Slideroom.com.