

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FINE ARTS

Learn about the unique application process, major/minor requirements, extracurricular, scholarship, and other opportunities for students interested in the fine arts.

WHAT MAKES UP THE FINE ARTS?

Performing arts

- Music
- Theatre
- Dance

Visual arts

- Studio Art
- Film/Cinematography

WHAT TYPES OF DEGREES ARE AVAILABLE?

- Bachelor of Arts (1/3 coursework in major, 1/3 in electives, 1/3 in gen education)
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (2/3 in your art form, 1/3 in other)
- Bachelor of Science (2/3 in your art form, 1/3 in other)
- Bachelor of Music (2/3 in music, 1/3 in other)
- Double degree programs (1/2 in music, 1/2 in other)

AND WHAT KIND OF MAJORS?

Art

Dance

Film

Theatre

Music

- Music performance
- Music theory and composition
- Music education
- Other

HELP! WHICH SHOULD I PICK?

- Does the student have multiple interests?
- What are the student's career goals?
- Is it likely they'll change course?
- What type of environment is best for this student?
- Get advice! Reach out to: current teachers, mentors, professionals in the field, faculty at prospective schools, admissions counselors, etc.
- Online resources (National Assoc. of School of Music, etc.)

WHEW. SO NOW THAT I DECIDED HOW DO I APPLY?

Every school is different, but typically will fall into one of three categories:

1. Separate - Apply to both the college/university AND the school of music/conservatory/program/etc.
2. Supplementary – Some requirements in addition to the general application (i.e. art-specific resume, additional recommendation from teacher in that field, etc.)
3. Single – only one general application

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRE-SCREENING AND AUDITIONING IN THE PERFORMING ARTS?

Prescreening:

Way for schools to limit amount of auditions held. Typically an audition for the audition.

Things to know:

- Requirements may be identical, a portion of, or completely different than audition. Check these in advance!
- Video generally preferred; Quality is very important.
- Check privacy settings if sharing online.
- Usually a fee involved.

Auditioning:

Generally the primary evaluative tool for a performing arts major (though academics are ALWAYS considered too).

Things to know:

- Can take anywhere from 10 minutes to a weekend of sessions. Schedule early to make adequate travel plans.
- Live auditions typically preferred; Regional/self-recorded may be offered. Ask what the school's preference is.
- Dress appropriately.

DO I NEED TO SUBMIT SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS FOR VISUAL ARTS? WHAT SHOULD I INCLUDE?

What type of supplemental materials are required will vary by school and program. Be sure to check the college/university's website and contact an admissions counselor with any questions.

Things to know

- Check with the school if they require original work or simply digital images.
- For 3D work, be sure to capture all angles.
- Aim for high quality images or video.
- Check privacy settings if sharing online.
- When appropriate, share a bit about each piece (title, year, background if needed, etc.).

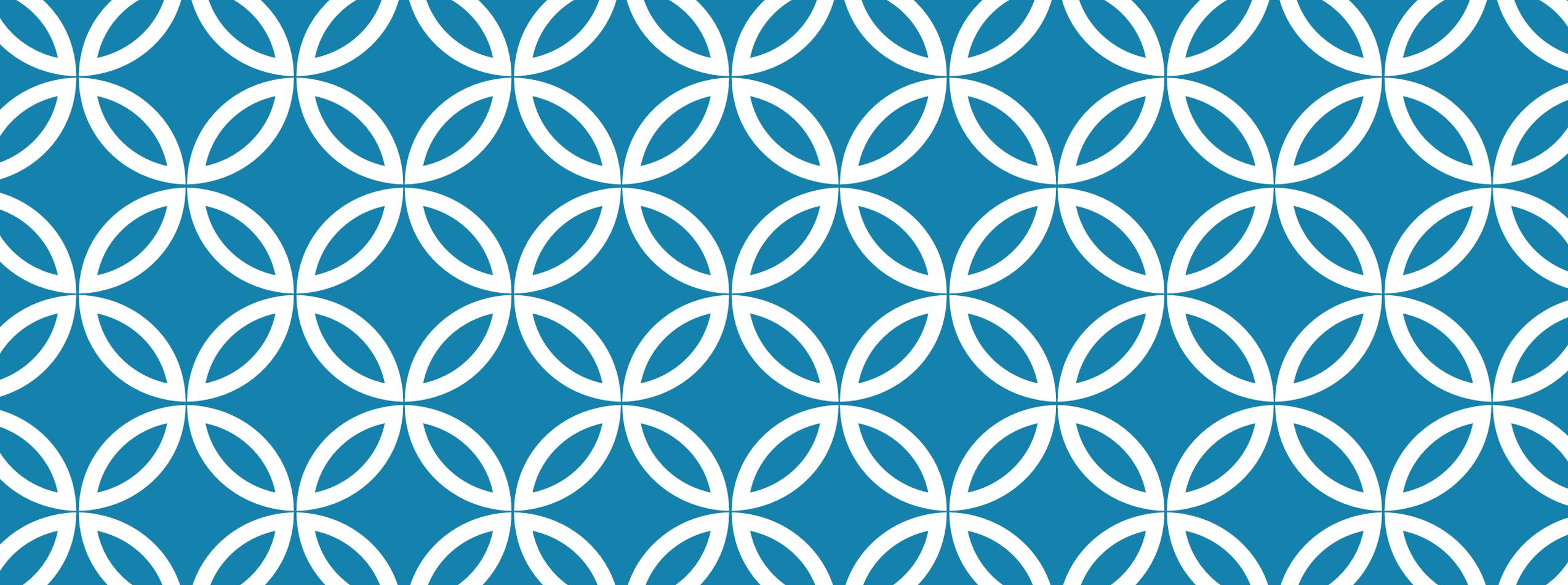
WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO STAY INVOLVED IN THE FINE ARTS IF I DECIDE NOT TO MAJOR IN IT?

- Student run clubs in music, art, theatre, dance, film, etc.
- Classes within fine arts department
- Private lessons
- Internships
- Fine arts based community service
- Fine arts based study abroad programs
- Musicals, operas, theatre through school or community
- Ensembles (large and small, faculty- and student-led)
- Student bands
- Concerts
- Radio stations
- TV stations
- Film festivals
- Local museums
- And MORE!

ARE THERE ANY SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE FINE ARTS?

Scholarships are available at many ACM schools for fine arts students – both majors and non-majors – and vary by school/program.

- For majors: the audition is typically the audition for all music scholarships available and these tend to be larger amounts.
- For non-majors: an abbreviated audition is typically used to evaluate students and these tend to be smaller amounts that are able to be combined with other merit and extracurricular aid.



QUESTIONS?

Want a copy of this handy
Powerpoint? Email Lauren at
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