

Portfolio Requirements

Undergraduate portfolio guidelines for fall 2023 enrollment

Portfolio Overview

Students applying to BFA programs in the College of Art and Design's School of Art, School of Design, and School of Film and Animation are required to submit a portfolio in addition to their application to RIT. Portfolios are not required for freshman students applying to the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. Acceptance of your portfolio does not guarantee acceptance to the University.

Portfolios may be evaluated at an event listed below, or submitted for review to RIT in the following formats:

- ▶ Uploaded online through SlideRoom at rit.slideroom.com
- ▶ Sent via mail on a flash drive to:
Rochester Institute of Technology
Undergraduate Admissions Office
60 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5604

Accepted media formats include: images (up to 5MB each), video or 3D models (up to 250MB each), audio (up to 30MB each), and PDFs (up to 10MB each). Links from external media such as YouTube, Vimeo, SoundCloud, SketchFab, or SoundCloud are also accepted. Please ensure images are formatted in RGB color mode. The clarity of the slide or digital images is of utmost importance.

Portfolio Evaluation Opportunities

National Portfolio Days

National Portfolio Day (NPD) events connect young artists interested in pursuing an education in the visual and related arts with experienced college representatives from the top art and design schools across the country. Students receive feedback on their portfolios and learn about academic programs. No admissions decisions or scholarship awards are offered at NPD events, but RIT's College of Art and Design can accept your portfolio as the visual portion of your application.

This year, NPD events will be offered in-person in locations across the country as well as online. RIT will be hosting an in-person NPD event on Sunday, October 2, 2022. For pre-registration and a complete list of the NPD events in which RIT will participate this year, please visit rit.edu/artdesign/npd.

RIT Open Houses

Portfolios can be reviewed at RIT's on-campus Open Houses:

- ▶ Monday, October 10, 2022
- ▶ Saturday, October 22, 2022
- ▶ Saturday, November 12, 2022

Registration is highly encouraged and available in August:

rit.edu/admissions/open-house.

Connect and Critique

This virtual event for high school seniors allows students to schedule a 1:1, 20-minute Zoom appointment with an RIT faculty to have their portfolio reviewed. This year's event will be held on Thursday, October 27, from 5-9 p.m. EST. Details and registration will be available in August and can be found at rit.edu/artdesign/undergrad-connect-critique.

Requirements by Program

Schools of Art and Design

Submit 10-20 pieces of your best work. Portfolios will be reviewed on the basis of pictorial composition, creativity/originality of ideas, drawing and design ability, a sense for the use of materials, attention to detail, and craftsmanship.

There should be a minimum of three samples of drawings made from direct observation (not copied from photographs, comics, or "fantasy") and created with traditional materials such as pencil, graphite, charcoal, ink, etc. Other work could include paintings, photography, page layout designs, computer images, two-dimensional design, sculptures, models, fine crafts, mechanical drawings, marker renderings, 3D modeling and renderings, programming, or creative coding. All images and documents submitted should be clearly labeled. Information such as title, size, media, date, assignment or theme (if any) and any exhibition/award notations should be included.

Medical Illustration

Applicants interested in the Medical Illustration BFA should include at least six samples of natural forms such as shells, elements of the human figure, bones, or plants drawn from direct observation in traditional materials.

School of Film and Animation

Animation Option

Submit 8-10 pieces of work. Please do NOT include any form of fan art.

- ▶ 2-3 drawings from direct observation. Do not copy from a photograph or drawing.
- ▶ 2-3 images from your imagination/visualization. Examples may include drawings, 3D models, puppets, etc.
- ▶ 3-4 pieces that showcase storytelling and creativity. Images should convey a sense of place, character, or an event; not just a representation of an object or character. Examples may include a series of sequential images (storyboards or graphic novel pages), photographs, figure drawings, gestures, or video files of sketchbooks (page-turning). Animations are not required, although if included please indicate your role, objectives (story, movement, performance, etc.) or creative contribution to the piece.

Production Option

Submit 8-12 examples of expressive, original work that showcase individual style as a filmmaker, storyteller, or artist. This may include, but is not limited to, video, animation, photography, creative writing, performance, drawings, digital art, paintings, scripts, storyboards, or film. Please submit no more than four videos and musical pieces; each video should be edited down to four minutes or less for review purposes.

More Information

For questions regarding the portfolio, guidelines or submission process, please contact RIT's College of Art and Design at portfolios@rit.edu. Learn more at rit.edu/artdesign/portfolio-requirements.