Art majors study and practice graphic design, illustration, photography, and studio arts (painting and sculpture). Graduates have access to many artistic and creative career paths due to the highly valued creative skills which can be transferable to many sectors. Several of these careers can be very fluid, which fits the inventive format of art itself. Examples include creative/art director, graphic designer, web designer, packaging designer, photojournalist, gallery curator, studio assistant, and many more. There is frequent demand for art by private collectors and galleries. Illustrators who work in publishing will see many job opportunities in print media and other evolving media forms. Technical skills will be valued in many areas of the art business.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, overall employment of Art and Design occupations is projected to grow between 2% and 6% from 2021 to 2031. Employment growth for artists and designers depends in large part on the overall state of the economy and individual purchasing power, careers are broader for people who use the creative process with emerging technologies. Opportunities are expected to rise as technology and artificial intelligence demand more creative, insightful and human-centered design approaches.

Essential Skills & Characteristics to develop and highlight:

- Creativity
- Knowledge of art history
- Attention to detail and organization
- Communication and interpersonal skills
- Passion for solving problems
- Open minded
- Self-belief
- Diverse skills

How To Get Started:

- Assess your personal strengths & preferences
- Research opportunities: online/in-person
- Expand your art & technical network and professional brand
- Get an internship/relevant work experience
- Join a professional art organization
- Connect with professionals through career conversations & job shadowing

Chart Your Path Forward with the Career Success Center

Activate Your Handshake Account

for events, coaching appointments and connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking & more!
www.wcsu.edu/handshake

Explore Career Communities

on our web portal to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your Art major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising

from the Career Success Center to make a plan, whether you're a first-year student or about to graduate
Put your Art major to WORK

Career Communities for Art Majors

The Career Success Center has seven Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Art majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit our website at www.wcsu.edu/careersuccess/career-communities/ to view more.

Recent Art Alumni

Employment Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24%</td>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Professional, Scientific and Tech Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Accomodations and Food Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Educational Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Administrative and Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Healthcare and Social Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Arts, Entertainment and Recreation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Live & Work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>Middle Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>South Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>East North Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>New England Balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>East South Central</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employers of Art Majors:

- WCSU
- Danbury Public Schools
- Cartus
- Nickelodeon
- TraceyLocke
- 686 Technical Apparel
- Conair LLC
- Fairfield University
- Vogue Magazine
- Hatch130

Common Alumni Job Titles:

- Art Directors
- Graphic Designer
- Interior Designer
- Art Therapists
- Exhibit Designer
- Fashion Designer
- Animators
- Public Relations
- Gallery Curator
- Illustrator

Informational & Job Websites

- https://wcsu.joinhandshake.com/login
- https://www.creativehotlist.com/
- http://www.creativejobscentral.com/
- https://artsandculture.google.com/
- https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers/
- https://www.aam-us.org/
- https://www.aiga.org/
- http://www.collegeart.org/
- http://www.naiaartists.org/
- https://www.societyillustrators.org/
- https://www.scbwi.org/
- https://www.nemanet.org/
- https://www.thenawa.org/
- https://www.smallmuseum.org/

Recent Art Alumni

Hannah Lauth
B.A. in Art with a Concentration in Painting, Class of 2020

“My time at WCSU created a foundation for lifelong learning, set into motion my artistic inquiry and interest in education, and encouraged my pursuit of graduate studies at Columbia University. I will always miss Professor Sabrina Marques’s painting classes and the ways in which she challenged us to think conceptually and deeply about our work.”

Katie Bassett Langin
B.A. in Sculpture & Graphic Design, M.F.A. in Mixed Media Painting, Class of 2014

“My time at WCSU did not simply provide me with an education; it gave me a life. I came to WCSU hoping to learn art techniques and receive a studio arts degree. Nearly 20 years later, I have three art degrees from WCSU and have stayed in the greater Danbury area for the enriching art community. WCSU’s art department provided me with the knowledge to succeed and the support to thrive.”