New students applying to Chapman University and the BFA Art program must submit both the Creative Supplement and the Common Application. The Creative Supplement application requires the following four pieces. Please visit: https://www.chapman.edu/admission/undergraduate/applynow.aspx for more information.

The Department of Art Portfolio application requires you to submit four items to be considered:

1. Statement of Interest:
   a. Provide insight to your creative background and experience. What appeals to you about the Chapman Art Program?
   b. Describe a contemporary artist that has been influential to your work. What is impactful about their artwork and how have they influenced your decision to be an artist?

2. Statement of two most successful works:
   Art in visual communication. Pick the two most successful works in your portfolio and explain in a statement what makes them most significant, including how the formal elements of the works support their meaning. Statement should be about 500 words in length, total.

3. Signed Letter of Recommendation:
   A signed letter of recommendation from a high school art teacher or art mentor, speaking to your creative talents and merits as a student. The letter is not required to be confidential, but mandatory. NOTE: This letter is in addition to the recommendation letter required by the Admissions Office.

4. Media Uploads:
   Portfolio: Upload 10 examples of your best art work. It may include design, drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture or whatever you feel best demonstrates your talent.

Current Chapman students wishing to declare a Major or Minor in Art must first meet first with one of the Studio Art full-time faculty: Professors Micol Hebron (hebron@chapman.edu), Lia Halloran (lhalloran@chapman.edu) or David Kiddie (kiddie@chapman.edu) to discuss the program & requirements. If you decide to move forward with the application, all the pieces listed above are required in order for your application to be considered.

Please visit: https://www.chapman.edu/admission/undergraduate/applynow.aspx or call 714.997.6729 for more information.

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The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Art prepares students for a professional career in the field of contemporary studio art, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary practice. Graduates will be cultural producers, fluent in technical, theoretical and professional components of a 21st Century artistic practice. Graduates will be prepared to compete in the field of visual art, where they may make their contribution as artists, curators, critics, gallerists and teachers.

Students from ART 384A Concepts in Contemporary Art: Art and Science enjoy a night at Mt. Wilson Observatory.

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Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
Integrated Curriculum

The BFA in Art offers a comprehensive curriculum that encourages students to work together and combine efforts and learning experiences in a shared creative environment. Freshmen and Sophomores explore a broad range of media in foundational studio courses designed to develop technical proficiencies. Sophomores and Juniors discover a range of contemporary artistic practices through required courses in Contemporary Gallery Practice, Modernism, and Contemporary Art History. Juniors and Seniors take four intermedia and interdisciplinary studio courses that promote critical and conceptual thinking which feed the development of individual artistic voices. The Senior Seminar course is the capstone experience in the program requiring students to write a thesis statement and install an exhibition of their artwork in Chapman University’s Guggenheim Gallery. Biannually, students work together to install shows juried by visiting professional artists and gallerists.

Visual Thinker Lecture Series

The Department of Art hosts lectures every semester designed for students to explore visual culture from a wide range of art professionals across disciplines offering opportunities to learn, be inspired, and network. Recent scholars and artist include: April Bey, Mark Steger, Nancy Baker Cahill, Amy Adler, Ken Gonzales-Day, Monique van Genderen, Dr. Nizan Shaked, Rachel Mason, Curtis Santiago, A.L. Steinert, Andrea Bowers, and Zachary Drucker. www.chapman.edu/wilkinson/art/speaker-series.aspx

The Art Club

The Chapman University Art Club (CUAC) is a student-led organization which provides a platform for community and social activities related to artistic practice outside of usual course curriculum. Students lead out of class critiques and exhibitions, and organize visits to contemporary galleries, museums, and art openings, immersing themselves in the dynamic Southern California art community. CUAC students recently organized an exhibition at The Satellite Art Fair (recently heralded as the best Art Fair in Miami) during Art Week in Miami, Florida.

Individual Mentorships

Students work closely with a faculty committee on their capstone BFA Senior exhibition over the duration of a semester to brainstorm, prepare, & learn to professionally install their exhibition.

Internships

The department has established relationships with several top-tier galleries in Los Angeles, and offers students competitive internships that provide professional experience and an insider’s look at the contemporary art world. Students have participated in internships with various artists, museums and galleries in the LA area including, Gagosian Gallery, Regen Projects, Francois Ghebaly Gallery, LAXART, Night Gallery, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibition.


Study the History of Art & Science in Florence, Italy

During the Interterm course ‘The Origins of Art and Science, the Rise of Machines, Technology and Astronomy,’ students have the opportunity to spend a month in Florence, Italy tracing the interconnection of Art and Science during the Italian Renaissance. This class explores the historical origins of art and science through sculpture, architecture, and painting.

International Opportunities

Study Contemporary Art in Berlin and Venice

This course offers students the opportunity to spend two weeks visiting galleries, artist studios and underground spaces & producing an exhibition in Berlin, Germany, and a week visiting the Venice Biennale in Italy.

Global Studies

Chapman University students are encouraged to participate in study abroad programs in almost every part of the world. Studying abroad provides a unique opportunity which can open up fresh perspectives on international political, economic and social issues, interpersonal relationships and ultimate career choices. Please visit: http://studyabroad.chapman.edu/ for more information.