

# THE DEPARTMENT OF ART

## UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

### Mission Statement

The Department of Art seeks to provide undergraduate and graduate students with opportunities for intellectual, creative, personal, and technical development through quality teaching, scholarly inquiry, creative endeavor, and service for the public good. As such the department's mission is clearly part of and supports the overall institutional missions of the College of Arts and Sciences, the University of West Georgia and the University System of Georgia.

### Goals, Learning Outcomes & Assessment

The department is dedicated to fostering an atmosphere where-in creative practice is developed and implemented with high expectations for the success of its graduates. The department is committed to graduating students with a basic understanding of the language of visual communication with the assumption that that education will be furthered through employment or graduate study. At this time in our culture, visual communication is a vital and marketable skill. Beyond the immediate applicability of the art degree, critical thinking skills acquired through the conceptual and practical aspects of visual literacy, are essential for innovation and advancement in many fields such as medicine, business, and law. Also, the Arts are often a vehicle for learning and appreciating the traditions of other cultures. Especially through the art history and art education programs, the department seeks to present students and the community with a variety of experiences from outside our particular culture.

#### The department's goals and objectives are as follows:

- The Department of Art will maintain high-quality undergraduate and graduate programs that impart broad-based and/or in-depth knowledge while fostering creative and intellectual growth, critical thinking abilities, and personal and social responsibility.
- The department will be composed of professors who engage in scholarly inquiry, creative production and public service in the fields of Art Education, Art History, Studio Arts, and Applied Design; and as such, they will be good role models as professional artists, designers, and teachers.
- The department will maintain up-to-date studios, classrooms and equipment that comply with national health and safety standards.
- As part of its curricular offerings, the Department of Art will provide yearly opportunities for travel to various cities, both domestic and international, for the purpose of viewing works of art and architecture in their context. Moreover, study abroad constitutes an important aspect of the department's mission, in that study abroad provides students with an important cultural perspective that fosters tolerance and appreciation for cultural diversity.
- The Department of Art will seek to serve as a cultural center of the region. Through our on-campus exhibition series the department showcases the visual art of regional and national artists. The Atlanta Gallery Project promotes the activities of faculty and students in various gallery settings in the metro Atlanta area. The department feels this is a crucial program for recruitment for the department and public relations for the University as a whole. These projects have been funded by the Alumni and Development Office and constitute a new chapter in relations with that office.
- The Department of Art will seek to provide varied services to the citizens of the State of Georgia. In addition to the mission to serve the region's educational needs, the department provides services such as; jurors in regional art competitions, artwork in local businesses, a cooperative relationship with the Carrollton Cultural Arts Center, and commissioned works of art. Outreach has even been provided to law enforcement and medical entities.

- The Department of Art will seek to provide financial aid and assistance to those students who are in need, in order that they would be able to continue and complete their studies. The Department of Art awards over \$10,000.00 in financial aid based upon the review of applicants' portfolios. Freshmen compete separately for these awards. Also, the Department of Art is among the top five departments in the University for the number of available endowed scholarships. The following scholarships are available to art majors, and total an additional \$4000.00 per year.
  - **Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts Scholarship**
  - **Betty Andre Memorial Scholarship**
  - **Marianne Bobick Memorial Scholarship**
  - **Joyce Entrekin Harris Scholarship**
  - **Mittie Brooks Johnson Memorial Scholarship**
  - **Bessie Curran Kepp Scholarship**
  - **Grace Richards Memorial Scholarship**
  - **Roush Family Scholarship**
  - **Helen Hunt Whatley Scholarship**
  - **David Dugan, Jr. Art Scholarship**

Over \$5,000.00 per year is used to purchase student art work at the Annual Art Student Show. These works become part of the permanent collection of the Department of Art and are placed in public areas of the campus.