The Art program is an integral part of the Performing and Creative Arts Department, sharing its mission to educate, mentor and train students who wish to pursue both the practice and the theory of the arts. In addition to preparing students majoring in the arts and those planning to receive advanced degrees in graduate school, the department’s courses meet the needs and interests of students in the liberal arts and sciences, and foster the role of the arts within the framework of a liberal arts education.

Art Program

The Art program is designed with a flexibility that accommodates students interested in focusing on Studio Art, Photography, or Art History. The department’s outstanding faculty of art historians and artists are committed to preparing students wishing to embark on diverse career paths, including creative artists, critics, and scholars. At its core, the Art program creates a nurturing environment where the students of the College of Staten Island/City University of New York (CSI/CUNY) can learn the profound value of the arts in the contemporary world. We offer a wide range of classes from ancient to contemporary topics. Several of our classes are cross-listed with American Studies, the Certificate in Latin American, Latino/a Studies, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The museums and galleries in New York City serve as an extension of the classroom and an essential part of the learning experience. Art History students have been placed in educational, administrative and restoration internships in institutions such as the Alice Austen House, the Hispanic Society, and the Guggenheim Museum. We encourage individual research and independent study with the full-time Art History faculty.

Art and Art History: Resources and Facilities

The Art program is located in the Center for the Arts (Building 1P), and hosts outstanding studio, lecture, workshop and exhibition spaces. We have a total of five studios on two floors and a designated art history classroom. Our sculpture studio has excellent natural and artificial light with access to an outdoor work area. In addition, there is a dedicated space for independent study instruction in welding. Our sculpture equipment includes a variety of power and pneumatic tools including band saws for metal and wood, drill presses, scroll saws, combination belt sanders, Beverly shears, TIG and MIG welders, and wood planer. Faculty ensure that students are well-supervised and trained in the safe operation of all power and hand tools.

Two painting, one drawing, and one printmaking studio also have wonderful natural light and are equipped with lockers, sinks, and storage racks. Each painting studio has 24 easels with accompanying seats and tablorets. The printmaking studio on the first floor is equipped with a state-of-the-art laser engraver and hosts the largest press manufactured by renowned maker Charles Brand.

For students choosing to take the Art History track through the Art major, we offer a wide range of classes from ancient to contemporary topics. Several of our classes are cross-listed with American Studies, the Certificate in Latin American, Latino/a Studies, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The museums and galleries in New York City serve as an extension of the classroom and an essential part of the learning experience. Art History students have been placed in educational, administrative and restoration internships in institutions such as the Alice Austen House, the Hispanic Society, and the Guggenheim Museum. We encourage individual research and independent study with the full-time Art History faculty.

The Art program is fortunate to offer students an exhibition space of their own to showcase and curate their work in the Student Art Gallery, located on the first floor in the Center for the Arts Building (1P-118B). Each year, graduating Studio Art majors participate in a thesis exhibition. Art and Photography clubs also self-curate and install their own annual exhibitions in the Student Art Gallery. An impressive resource for our students and community alike, the College of Staten Island’s world-class art gallery hosts regional, national, and international exhibitions. Every semester, our gallery curator, Professor Nanette Salomon, and gallery director, Craig Manister, supervise student interns, providing them with curatorial guidance and gallery experience.

The College of Staten Island Library has a total of 5,574 books in the Art and Photography section. The Library maintains several art databases, such as Art Abstracts, ARTstor, Art Museum Image Gallery, and Oxford Art Online.

Above left: Prof. Marianne Weil instructs a student during a sculpture class.

Below, from top:
1. Prof. Tracey Jones in the painting studio.
2. View of painting studio.
3. Student sketching in drawing studio.
and *Art Forum* are two of the many journals available in print.

**Art Major**

Students wishing to major in Art may opt for a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree. Art majors are required to take a two-semester survey of the History of Art and three introductory Studio Art courses as part of their pre-major requirements and take an additional eight credits, or two courses, in Art History above the 100-level. The BFA degree in Art requires at least 27 credits of Studio Art above the 100-level. The BA degree in Art offers students the option to study Art History as a primary subject by selecting predominantly Art History electives (instead of studio electives), for the remaining twenty credits required of the major.

The Studio Art curriculum encourages students to objectively critique, articulate and express their vision in the visual arts. Through ongoing studio discourse, Art majors and minors build an awareness of the conceptual underpinnings of their visual art practice in relation to the contemporary world and to historical precedent. Students develop skills and establish proficiency in a range of media. For students seeking a graduate degree in Studio Art, our faculty mentor students through ongoing advisement, independent study, and portfolio preparation.

**Art Minor**

Students may elect to complete an Art minor (17–18 credits) choosing from two different paths: Art History and Studio Art. The Art History minor may be coupled with a History, Comparative Literature, or Modern Language major making the student competitive for a graduate program in Art History.

**Art Major/Minor with Photography Concentration**

The Art program offers a BA or a BFA in Art with a concentration in Photography. The Photography program has a long-standing academic tradition which teaches students how to use photography both as a form of artistic expression and as a professional career path. Students work with state-of-the-art photography equipment, software and internet applications, as well as creating artwork for galleries, museums and beyond. If you are interested in more information about this concentration, please refer to the PCA Photography brochure.

**Credit Requirements**

With some exceptions, baccalaureate degree programs require the successful completion of 120 credits.

**Art Club**

The Art Club focuses on uniting artists of all mediums and art lovers alike by encouraging an appreciation and awareness of the relevance of art in life. Through art-related activities such as guest artist lectures, curating exhibitions, fundraising, museum/gallery visits, students engage and support each other in their ongoing creative pursuit.

**Honors and Awards**

To graduate with honors in Art a student must have a 3.50 grade point average in Art courses and must complete a body of independent work approved by one or more full-time Art faculty advisers. The work should be presented in an exhibition, if possible. Art History students may undertake the writing of a research paper with the approval and supervision of a faculty adviser. Graduating seniors in the Art program are eligible for nomination for a range of departmental awards.

---

**Department of Performing and Creative Arts**

**George Emilio Sanchez**, Chairperson • **Deborah Meise**, PCA Administrative Assistant • deborah.meise@csi.cuny.edu

The Department of Performing and Creative Arts is located in Center for the Arts, 1P-203. Please call 718-982-2545 and ask to speak with the appropriate program coordinator. **Studio Art**: Associate Professor Tracey Jones, Associate Professor Marianne Weil, Assistant Professor Miguel Aragon. **Art History**: Professor Nanette Salomon and Associate Professor Siona Wilson. **Photography**: Professor Beatrix Reinhardt and Assistant Professor Chris Verene. **Higher Education Officer**: Craig Manister

---

**Internships**

Students in our program have been accepted into world-class internships in many disciplines.

- The Avedon Foundation
- The Guggenheim Museum Education Department
- International Center of Photography, (ICP)
- Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA)
- Renee and Chaim Gross Foundation
- The Hispanic Society
- The Alice Austen House
- The College of Staten Island Art Gallery
- El Museo del Barrio

---

The department’s courses meet the needs and interests of students in the liberal arts and sciences, and foster the role of the arts within the framework of a liberal arts education.