

ART HISTORY

- *WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY ART HISTORY MAJOR?
- *WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE MYSELF MORE MARKETABLE?
- *WHERE CAN I FIND CAREER INFORMATION?

• CAREER PLANNING • SUNY POTSDAM • 106 SISSON

HOME PAGE: www.potsdam.edu/career

TEL: 315-267-2344

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ART HISTORY?

1. Examine the relationship between a culture and its art, as well as the elements of style and the aesthetic ideas behind them.
2. Act as a consultant to commercial organizations and agencies.
3. Buy and restore valuable art work for museums or galleries.
4. Teach or serve as administrator in museums or galleries.



EXAMPLES OF FIELDS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR ART HISTORY MAJORS:

1. Museums
2. Galleries
3. Auction Houses
4. Colleges
5. Magazines

SAMPLE JOB TITLES OF SUNY POTSDAM ART HISTORY ALUMNI:

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|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * Teacher | * Marketing Director |
| * Programmer Analyst | * Asst. Deputy Director/Collections |
| * Sound Recordist | * Educational Consultant |
| * Artist | * Textile Designer |
| * Professor | * Productions Manager |
| * Art Dealer | * Art Conservator |

SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTIONS:

1. Archivist: determines what portion of information produced by government agencies, businesses, and educational institutions should be classified and put into historical records in libraries and museums.
2. Art Conservator: manages display collections in museums, zoos, aquariums, botanical gardens, and historical sites. Restores art works and historic items to their original condition.
3. Marketing Director: analyzes existing and potential product/service markets. Collects and analyzes data. Prepares reports that interpret market condition.

ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY:

1. Get involved in the career development process early, *freshman year*.
2. Select minors/elective courses that will demonstrate interest/applicability to career objectives.
3. Get career related experience: internship, summer and/or part-time employment, volunteer. Join a career-related association or organization.
4. Develop the following job search and self-marketing skills: resume and cover letter writing, portfolio development, researching employers, interviewing, networking, and employment searching.
5. Skills to develop: computer aided design techniques, critiquing, creativity, verbal communications, manual dexterity, concentration, and critical observation.

SAMPLE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES:

- * The Cloisters, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
 - Collects and preserves medieval works of art from Western Europe and educates visitors.
 - Interns conduct gallery workshops for groups of children. They prepare and present at public gallery lectures.

- * National Museum of Women in the Arts
 - Brings recognition to the achievements of women artists of all periods and nationalities by exhibiting, collecting, preserving, and researching art by women.
 - Interns may act as a support staff for various departments. They complete designated projects within assigned departments. They attend education programs, docent training, and field trips to other art institutions.

STRATEGIES FOR CONTACTING EMPLOYERS:

- * write an employer targeted resume and cover letter
- * prepare for the interview
- * learn job search strategies
- * design a portfolio
- * network
- * develop networking cards
- * use SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning reference books
- * use SUNY Potsdam's Career Internet Homepage

SOME EMPLOYERS OF SUNY POTSDAM ART ALUMNI:

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| * Discovery Toys | * Art & Business Council Inc. |
| * Reliance Development Group | * Reflex Magazine |
| * Canton Central School District | * Green Linnet/Xenophile Records |
| * US Air Force | * Adirondack Life Magazine |
| * Walt Disney Co. | * Rochester Museum/Science Center |
| * Natalie Rivera Gallery | * University of Michigan |

WHERE TO GET INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE:

1. ART DEPT., SUNY Potsdam, 218 Brainerd Hall

- * talk with faculty

2. CAREER PLANNING CENTER, SUNY POTSDAM, 106 Sisson Hall

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * individual career assistance | * job vacancies |
| * workshops/seminars | * summer jobs |
| * employer literature | * reference file |
| * SUNYCDO Job Fair | * career fairs |
| * computerized assessment programs | * Career Planning Internet Homepage |
| * career testing | * career library |
| * network | * alumni contacts |
| * free handouts available | * Virtual Job Fair |
| * Employment Connections | |

WHAT IF I WANT TO GO TO GRADUATE SCHOOL?

RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING CENTER:

- * graduate school handout
- * GRE, GMAT, MCAT, LSAT and MAT forms and bulletins (GRE computerized tests and graduate study books)
- * graduate books-schools and programs
- * financial aid information about graduate school
- * Peterson's Graduate Programs (G7F,G,H,I,J,K)

RESOURCES FOR FINDING EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER INFORMATION:

RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING CENTER:

- * The Career Guide Employment Opportunities Directory (R8GG)
- * Job Hunter's Sourcebook (R26D)
- * Photographer's Market (R37A)
- * Museum Careers (C33A)
- * Career Opportunities for Art (C5E)
- * Working Press of the Nation (R9A, R9B, R9C)
- * Additional material found by using Career Planning Library Bibliography
- * Summer Jobs for Students (S2A)
- * Museum Directory (R33A)
- * Great Jobs for Art Majors (C5J)
- * Artist's & Graphic Designer's Market (R5A)
- * How to Start and Succeed as an Artist (C5I)
- * Career Planning Internet Homepage

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- * Smithsonian Job Hotline
P.O. Box 37481
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 357-1450
- * American Association of Museums
1225 I St., NW, Ste. 200
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 289-1818
- * Society of American Archivists
600 S. Federal St., Ste. 504
Chicago, IL 60605
(312) 992-0140

