



Arts & College

AT KENT DENVER SCHOOL

Benefits of a Strong Education in the *Arts*

Creativity is the throughline of excellence. No matter what you study in college, Kent Denver Arts will make you more skilled. Kent Denver propels student artists toward their college ambitions. Here are some things to consider when choosing your arts path.



Creating Artistic *Agency*

Learning Opportunities for Arts-Focused Students

ARTS COURSES

take over 50 amazing courses in a variety of disciplines

INNOVATION SCHOLARS ARTS TRACK

develop an individualized capstone project

INDEPENDENT STUDIES AND PRACTICUMS

pursue your specific creative interests

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

deepen your knowledge and work directly with an Arts teacher

OPEN STUDIOS

utilize school resources to develop your unique body of work

SENIOR COLLAB

prepare your personal artist website and portfolio

Choosing Your Arts *Path*

BA OR BFA?

A **Bachelor of Arts (BA)** provides a broad, liberal arts education with the flexibility to explore electives and double majors, making it ideal for students who want a well-rounded academic experience alongside their artistic studies.

A **Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)** is a more intensive, pre-professional degree with a strong focus on studio practice, performance, or technical skill development, designed for students pursuing a career as a practicing artist.

MAJOR OR MINOR?

Majoring in an art discipline provides in-depth training, professional development, and a strong portfolio, preparing students for careers in the arts or related industries.

Minorng in an art discipline allows students to develop creative skills and explore their artistic interests while focusing on another primary field, offering a balance between artistic passion and other academic curiosities.

CONSERVATORY/ART SCHOOL, LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE, OR UNIVERSITY?



A **conservatory/art school** offers an intensive, specialized education focused almost entirely on artistic training, with a rigorous, immersive environment designed for students committed to a professional career in the arts.



A **liberal arts college** provides a well-rounded education that balances artistic study with a broad range of academic subjects, fostering critical thinking and interdisciplinary exploration.



A **university** typically offers a mix of both approaches, with strong arts programs alongside diverse academic opportunities, extensive resources, and a vibrant campus life.



11 Colleges for Kent Denver *Artists to Consider*



Bard College (Annandale-on-Hudson, NY)



Brown University/Rhode Island School of the Arts (dual program) (Providence, RI)



Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester (Rochester, NY)



New York University Gallatin School of Individualized Study (New York, NY)



Oberlin College (Oberlin, OH)



Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) (Savannah, GA)



Skidmore College (Saratoga Springs, NY)



The New School (New York, NY)



The University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)



School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University (Boston, MA)



Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT)

Getting *Prepared*

DEADLINES AND DIRECTIONS

Applications for art programs are time-intensive. Keep track of critical deadlines and plan ahead. Follow all directions carefully. For competitive programs, the first round of cuts usually involves those who didn't follow instructions. Partner with your college counselor to develop organizational tools for deadline management.

PORTFOLIOS AND PRESCREENS

For portfolios, ensure all art is labeled according to the school's criteria. Prescreen criteria vary so ensure that you follow the specific expectations. Don't get stuck in a wormhole of retaping—know when to stop and submit.

Studying art in college can lead to a vibrant art career. Kent Denver has a long legacy of launching professional and influential artists around the world.

Kent Denver *Assists* with Portfolio and Audition Processes

Activate Unique Opportunities

Apply for the **Innovation Scholars Arts Track** in your 10th-grade year.

Apply for an **independent study** in your 11th-grade year focused on preparing your body of work.

Use **open studios** to work on your portfolio or prescreen.

Join the **Senior Collab** in your 12th-grade year to prepare your personal artist website and portfolio.

For video testimonials from Sun Devils turned successful professional artists:
www.kentdenver.org/arts/alumni-in-the-arts



Questions You Can *Ask*

When Considering College Art Programs

- How much *making* can I do?
- What facilities do I *actually have* access to as an undergraduate?
- How many *student-run* art-making or performance groups are there?
- Who are the professors? *Do they make the type of art that intrigues me?*
- What exhibits or performances have happened on campus?
Do they align with my interests?
- Can I meet other students in *different disciplines* who could complement my art and/or collaborate with me?
- What are the costs of materials associated with this degree?
Who covers them?
- Where does the alumni base for a certain college typically locate?
Does this align with your idea of where you want to be?
- What opportunities are there for *equipment or material* access?
- How much access to *outside cultural opportunities* and resources do you have?
- How much access to *solitude and nature* do you have?
- What are the *study abroad and travel opportunities*? What funding opportunities are available for travel?



Want More *Information?*

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Experience Extraordinary

WWW.KENTDENVER.ORG/ARTS