

Art or Art Education (K-12)

Which employers have hired Montana State University Billings Art or Art Education (K-12) graduates?

Zee Creative	Western Heritage Center	Lockwood High School
Yellowstone Art Museum	MT Institute of Art	Moss Mansion
Billings Central Catholic School	MSU Billings	Crooked Line Studio

What are the average annual wages and potential lifetime earnings for professionals working in the Art or Art Education (K-12) field?

Occupation	Annual wage range in MT*	Potential lifetime earnings*
Graphic Designer	\$52,170 - \$55,640	\$58,910 x 39 yrs = \$2,297,490
Photographer	\$34,450 - \$40,040	\$40,760 x 39 yrs = \$1,589,640
Fine Artist	\$45,990 - \$57,810	\$59,300 x 39 yrs = \$2,312,700
High School Art Teacher ⁺	\$32,620 - \$59,000	\$65,220 x 39 yrs = \$2,543,580

* Based on the 2023 state mean and national median wage of occupation per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Lifetime earnings are based on the national median wage.

+ Please review the Montana educator licensure requirements on the OPI website at <https://opi.mt.gov/>.

What percentage of Art or Art Education (K-12) graduates report having a job after graduating?

Out of the 57% of 2024 Art or Art Education (K-12) graduates that we received graduate data on, **100% reported being employed* after graduation.**

* Employment includes employment in major, employment not in major, continuing education, and military service.

Not sure if Art or Art Education (K-12) is for you?

1. Take an introductory class in the program, such as Introduction to Sociology or Social Problems. Keep mental notes or a journal to track what you like and dislike!

Employment opportunities with advanced degrees or experience:

- Art Director
- Curator
- Art Restorer
- University Art Professor

2. Get a part-time job in the field. Check out CareerLink by scanning the QR Code for the latest job openings!



Career & Employment Services

E-mail: careers@msubillings.edu Phone: (406) 657-2168

Web: www.msubillings.edu/careers

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ART

Art students at MSUB explore their research interests through developing visual language and critical thinking skills. With small class sizes and easy access to studios, students emerge as professionals boasting solo exhibitions and ready to enter creative fields or seek higher degrees.

Students can focus on their favorite emphasis – whether in Art History, Art Education, or in the Studio with Ceramics, Drawing, Painting, Photography, New Media, or Sculpture!

What makes the Art program unique?

- Low student-to-faculty ratio means students have access to faculty for mentoring and insightful critiques.
- Graduating students leave with a successful solo exhibition on their résumé!
- Study abroad with faculty to Italy and the Venice Biennale!

I switched my major out of nowhere, with no art skills, because I had an interest in art. Because MSUB's Art Department works with each student at their current skill level, and approaches teaching with a genuine interest in improving the students on an individual level, I was able to learn without feeling pressured to be a certain skill, and now, after starting from zero, I feel like an artist with skills I can be proud of. — Aiden Cole (Class of 2023)

What students like most about the Art program:

- The sense of community in the studios that builds support and friendship into each class.
- The freedom to use multiple studios to make any art you can imagine!
- The small class sizes with access to faculty for advice and instruction

What I like most about the art program is the end-of-degree Capstone project. Students have the opportunity for a solo exhibition, something I think is extremely valuable to get started in an art career. It is a great learning opportunity for art students. — Aiden Cole (Class of 2023)



Department Webpage:

<https://www.msubillings.edu/class/art/>

