Regardless of whether they are producing a work of art, studying the history of it, or exploring how artistic expression and interpretation will change in the digital age, students in the University of Rochester’s Department of Art and Art History are taking creativity to new heights.

Undergraduates can receive a degree in studio art or art history, while graduate students can earn a PhD in visual and cultural studies. Each program provides opportunities to investigate visual history from ancient through contemporary times, learn about photography and architecture, study off campus either in New York City or abroad, and become fluent in traditional and new media. Many alumni have become museum curators, artists, media professionals, college professors, and critics.

The department provides enrichment for its students, the University, and the broader community through the sponsorship of engaging lectures, conferences, seminars, and exhibitions. The Hartnett Gallery in Wilson Commons is a student-supported professional art gallery that regularly showcases contemporary work from national and international artists.

The First of Its Kind: The Visual and Cultural Studies Program
The department houses the internationally recognized graduate program in visual and cultural studies (VCS). As the first program of its kind anywhere in the world, students explore how visual culture has been influenced by history and society over time.

VCS offers a multidisciplinary array of classes in art and art history, film studies, modern languages and cultures, anthropology, and architecture. Studies are regularly enriched by interactions with the Departments of History, English, Music, and Philosophy. This highly selective program accepts only five to seven graduate students each year, with each student receiving full tuition remission and a stipend. Students earn prestigious awards and fellowships from organizations such as the Center for Advanced Study in Visual Arts, the Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies, the Winterthur Museum, and the Hasselblad Foundation.

Making a Difference: Art New York (ANY)
This unique semester-long undergraduate internship program immerses students in the stimulating arts environment of New York City. Students experience the city’s cultural life while pursuing a combination of classroom learning and hands-on work. ANY provides an insider’s perspective to art careers in museums and galleries, arts administration, advertising and design, publishing, film, and fashion. This ANY semester inspires students, educates them, and increases their professional networking and mentoring opportunities.

“Understanding the history of art has helped me gain context for so many of the historical issues that have led to world-changing events and actions. Sometimes creative expression is all that people have left to give, and that’s what interests me most.”

Carolyn Marthens ’12 (GRADE)
art history major, Spanish minor

The University of Rochester’s unique Guaranteed Rochester Accelerated Degree in Education (GRADE) program offers students a quality liberal arts education while also preparing them at the Warner School of Education to become educators.
How You Can Help

Gifts to the Department of Art and Art History will enhance creative and academic pursuits for our students and faculty and enrich their experience at Rochester. Consider any of the following giving opportunities:

• Endow a professorship
• Fund an undergraduate or graduate award, scholarship, or fellowship
• Contribute toward capital projects that improve and expand studio space in Sage Hall
• Donate needed books and media or provide funding to the Art and Music Library or the Visual Resources Collection
• Provide an internship or work opportunity for students in your institution, community, or city
• Underwrite an exhibition on the River Campus or endow a fund to bring guest curators to campus
• Support ANY by sponsoring a guest lecture or contributing a gift to expand the program
• Create an artist-in-residence program

Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—And Make the World Ever Better

www.rochester.edu/college/aah

For more information on giving opportunities, please contact

Lisa Ann Seischab
Executive Director of Advancement
(585) 276-3352, lisa.seischab@rochester.edu