



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

# Your dreams are the foundation ofthe

The moment



step through our doors, you'll feel it, the energy that pulsates within our community, emanates from our studios, and resonates across the globe.





"I wanted a more intimate college experience. I knew that I didn't want to be swallowed up into a sea of other students. Ultimately, this has allowed me to have the most hands on education possible."







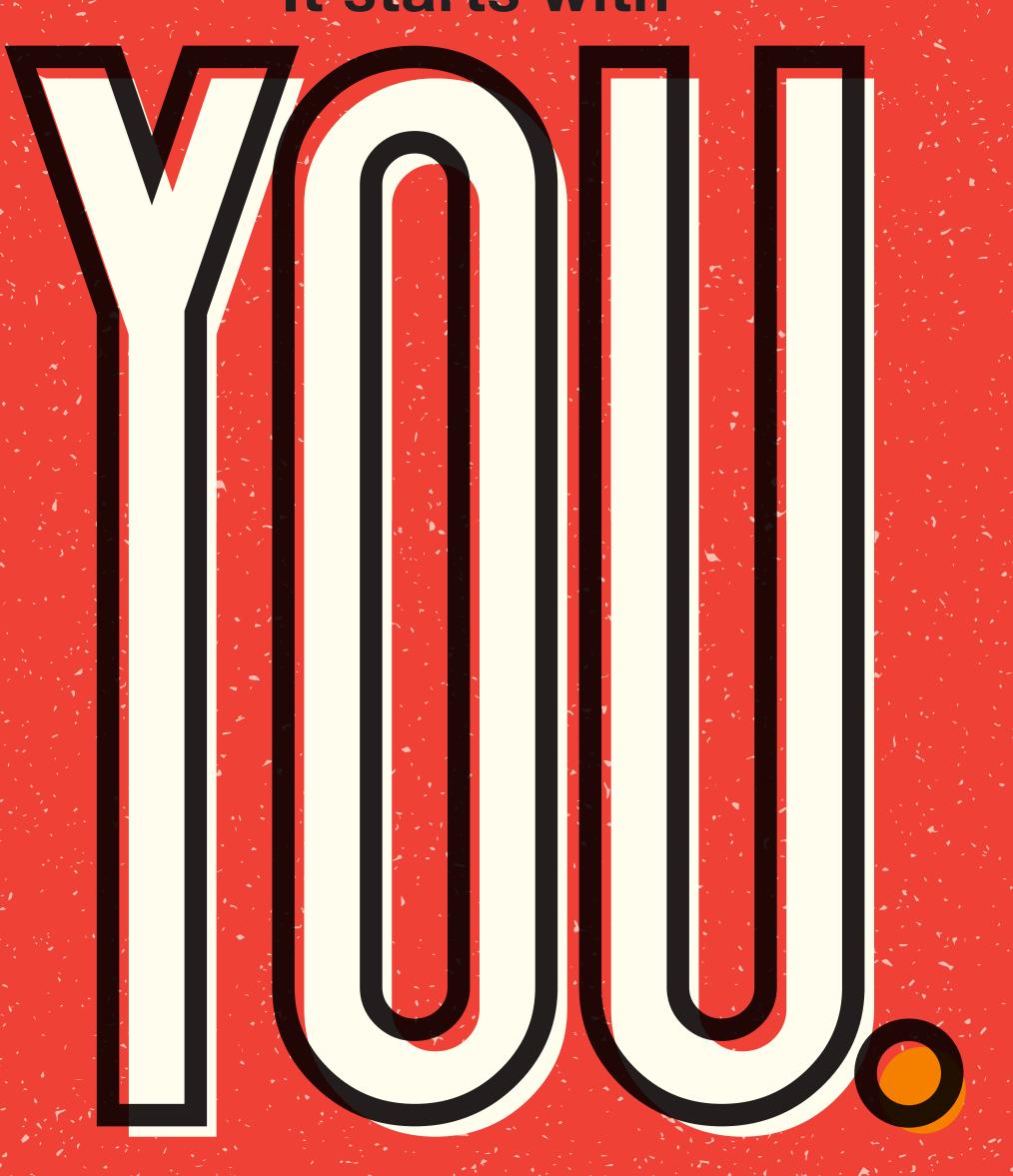


At the Art Academy of Cincinnati, we are the new generation of boundary-breakers. The imaginative radicals who are changing the face of art as we know it. The creative entrepreneurs who are redefining culture. The luminous visionaries who are creating a newer, brighter, more 

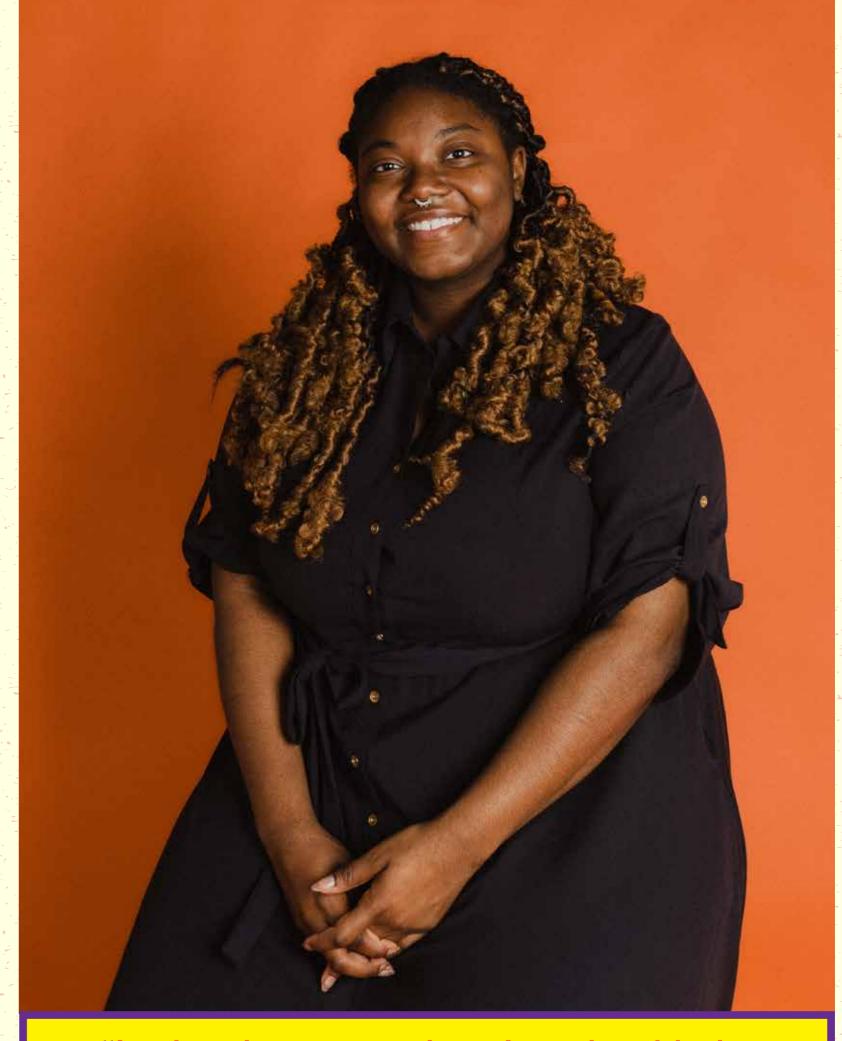




The Art of the future starts here.
It starts with



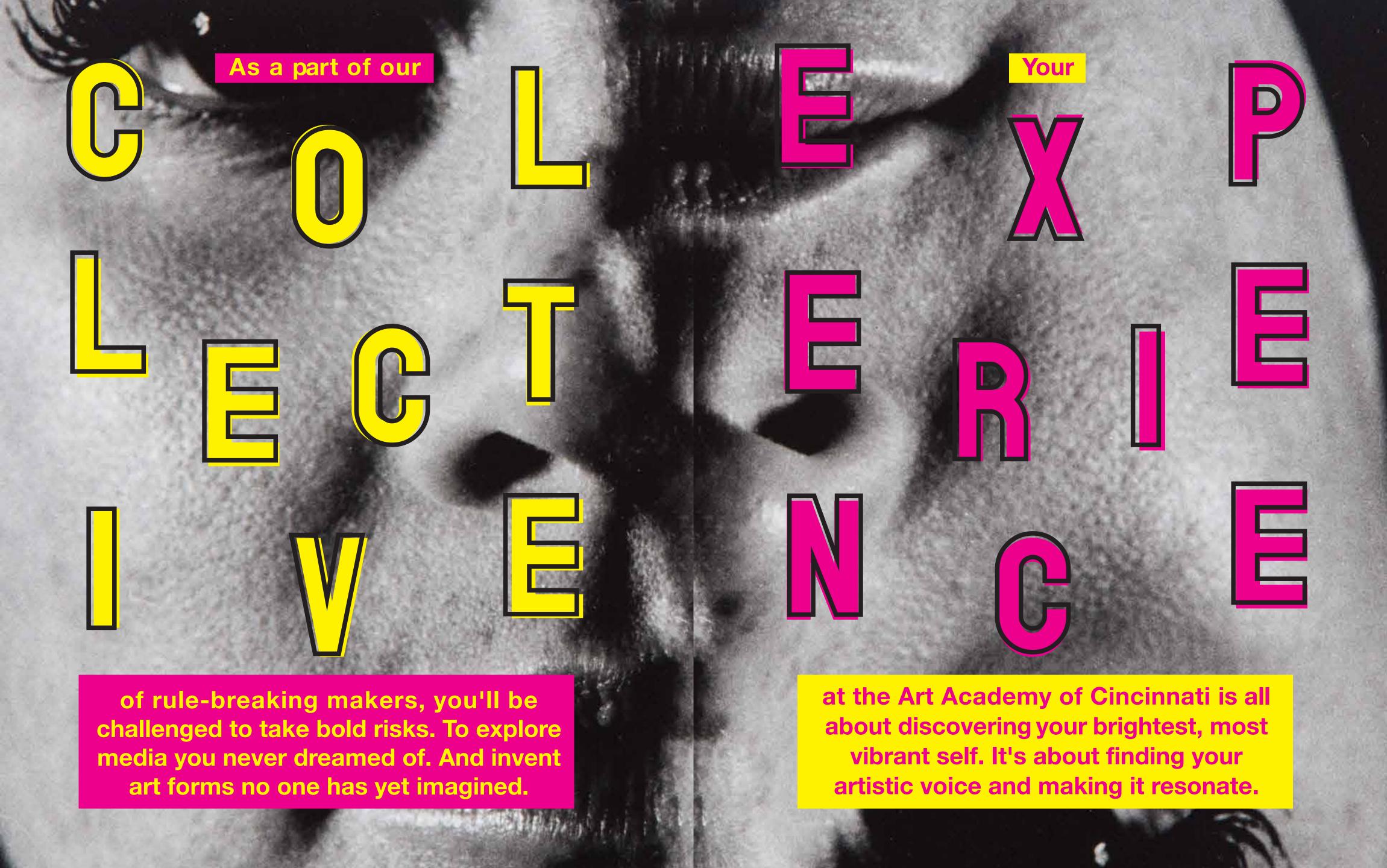




"I value the connections I made with the people I've come into contact with. Whether that be professors or students. I value community and AAC gave that to me."

NYTAYA BABBITT (BFA 2021, Valedictorian)







"I love that it's a small community of people—we all know each other and each other's work. Seeing the studios and knowing we'd get to work together there was really encouraging."

HARRIS WHEELER (BFA 2019)

a place of your own where you can invent, experiment, and collaborate around the clock. Our spacious facilities will provide you with all the tools, technology, and support you need to expand your vision and transmit it to the WORLD.



The bond that unites these studio-mates is the heart of the Art Academy experience.

SOME OF THEIR CURRENT FAVORITE

# TAISBE BEAUTION

HIROHIKO ARAKI-SALVADOR DALI
NAM JUNE PAIK-RENE MAGRITTE
ANDY WARHOL

# **WRITERS**

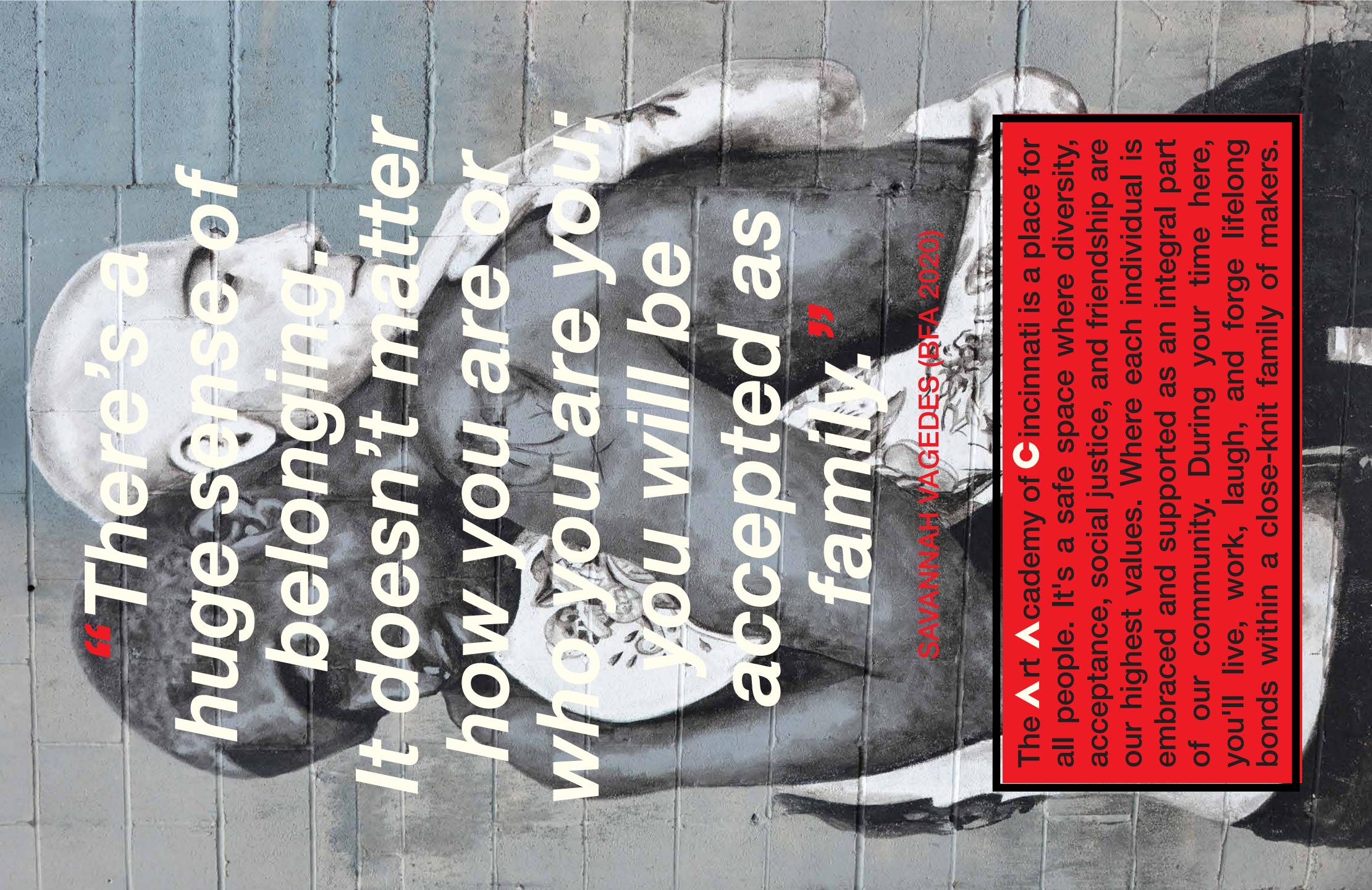
GEORGE ORWELL
EDGAR ALLEN POE-MATT HART

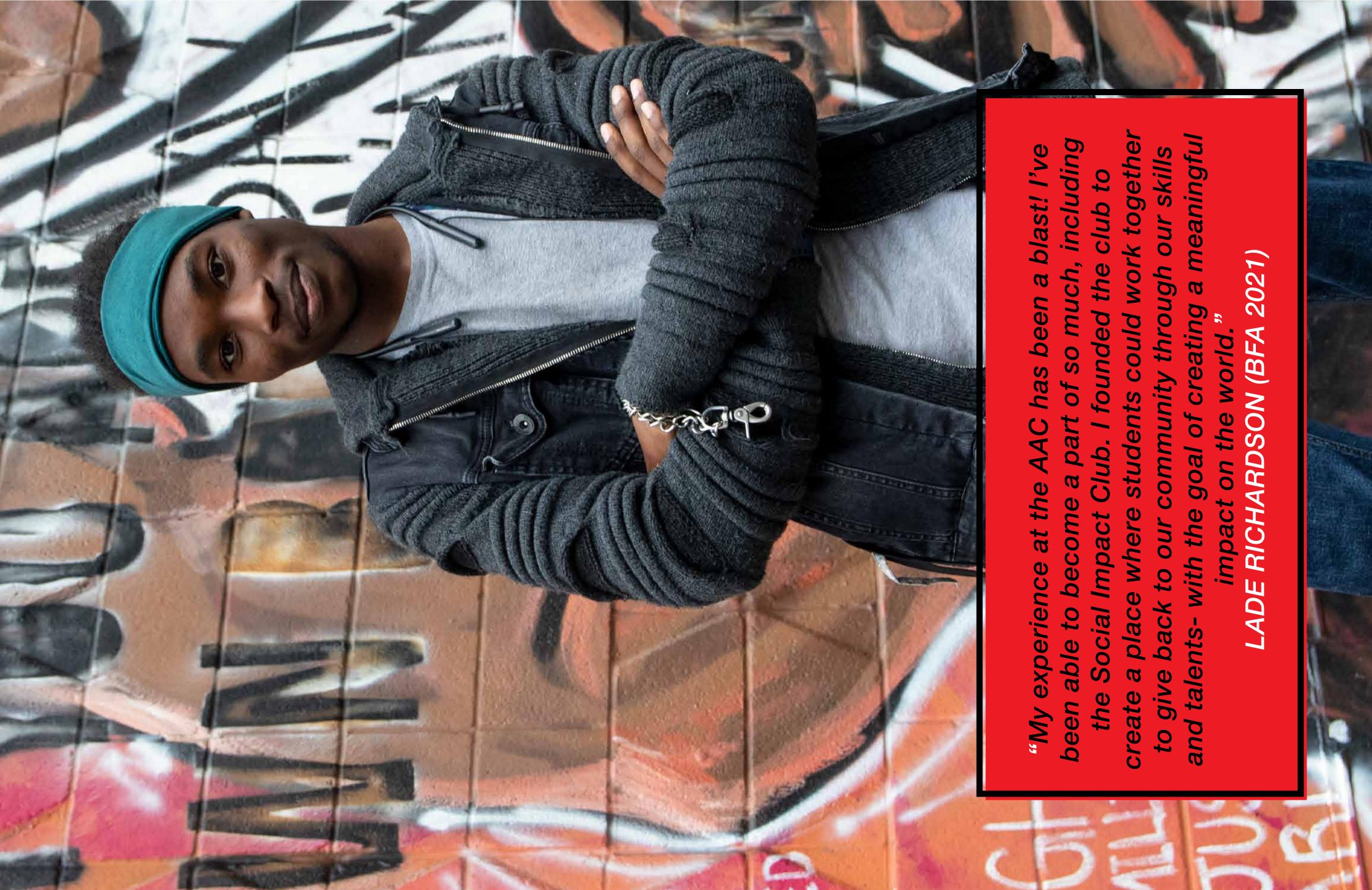
"The studio gives me my own dedicated space to keep my head in the art game. It's a place to keep inspiration flowing."

IAN HAYES (BFA 2023)

# SOURCE SOMETHING TO LEVEL OF THE SOURCE STATES AND THE SOURCE STAT











REATHE, HEAL, and FEEL as a unit, as one." ice, SEEN by those of the same fiber, woven together, a blanket of warmth. A place to

students of AAC where they feel heard and seen. mission is to create a community for the black ounded in 2020, the Black Student Union's KEITH WALLICK, '21 BSU President (BFA 2024)







# INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

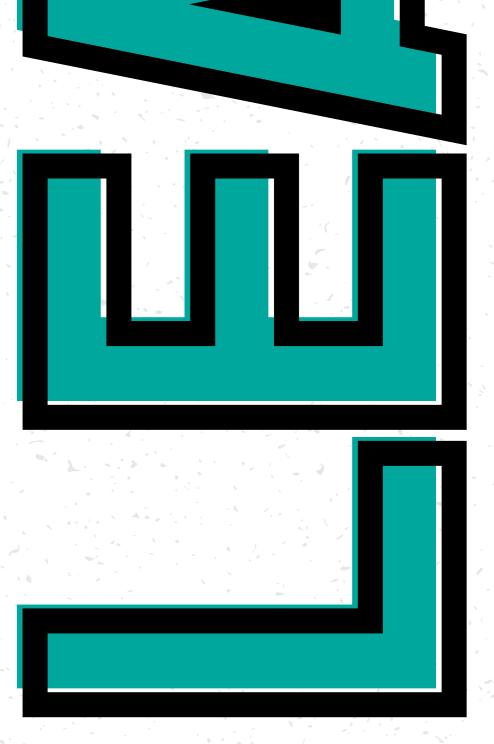


In our active, hands-on classrooms, you'll work side by side with faculty who are not only your mentors, but your peers, collaborators, and greatest supporters. They will help you hone your skills in your discipline and challenge you to discover an artistic voice that reverberates far into the future.

# 

"The smaller class sizes have been an environment I thrive in, where I can have valuable one-on-one time with the professors."

JOSEPH DIMARIO (BFA 2019)

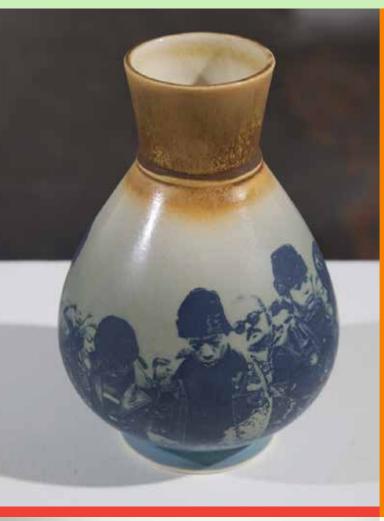




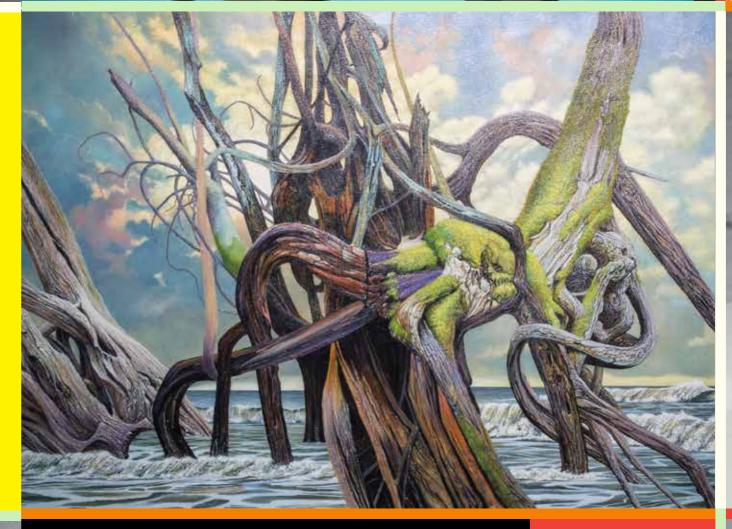








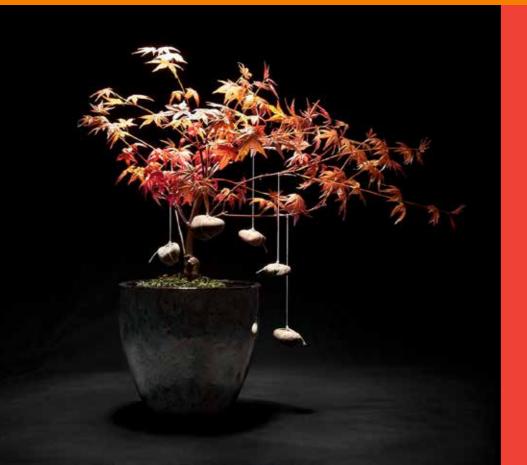
"I think seeing people
who are genuinely passionate about education,
who strive to help you
grow outside of the box
is life-changing."
EMMA HEDGES (BFA 2021)

















Creative
Writing
Design
Digital Arts
Animation
Illustration
Sculpture
Painting and
Drawing
Photography
Print Media

Within our flexible curriculum, all majors can also be minors.

Art History\*
Film, Video, Audio\*
\* Minor.

Top 50 Illustration Schools and Colleges in the U.S., 2021.
-Animation Career Review

Top 7% of Best Colleges for Art in America.
-Niche

Top 10 Art History Programs in the Midwest.
-College Magazine

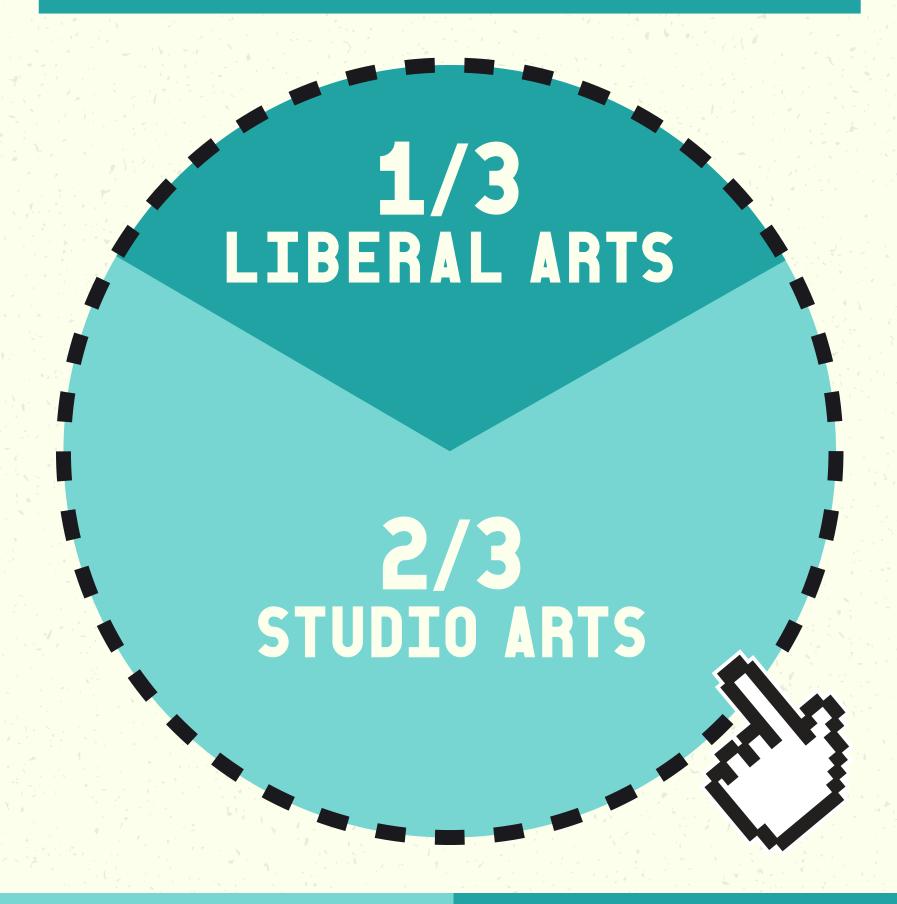
#6 Best College Art Program in Ohio.
-Best Art Colleges

Top 10% of Best Colleges for Design in America.

-Niche

Our unique offering of electives is always shifting and expanding to feed students' needs and drive their artistic practices toward new and innovative terrain. Our electives instill curiosity by exposing students to the diverse cultures, artistic practices, groundbreaking theories, and creative values that shape our contemporary world.

# CURRICULUM RATIO



# LIBERAL ARTS EXAMPLES:

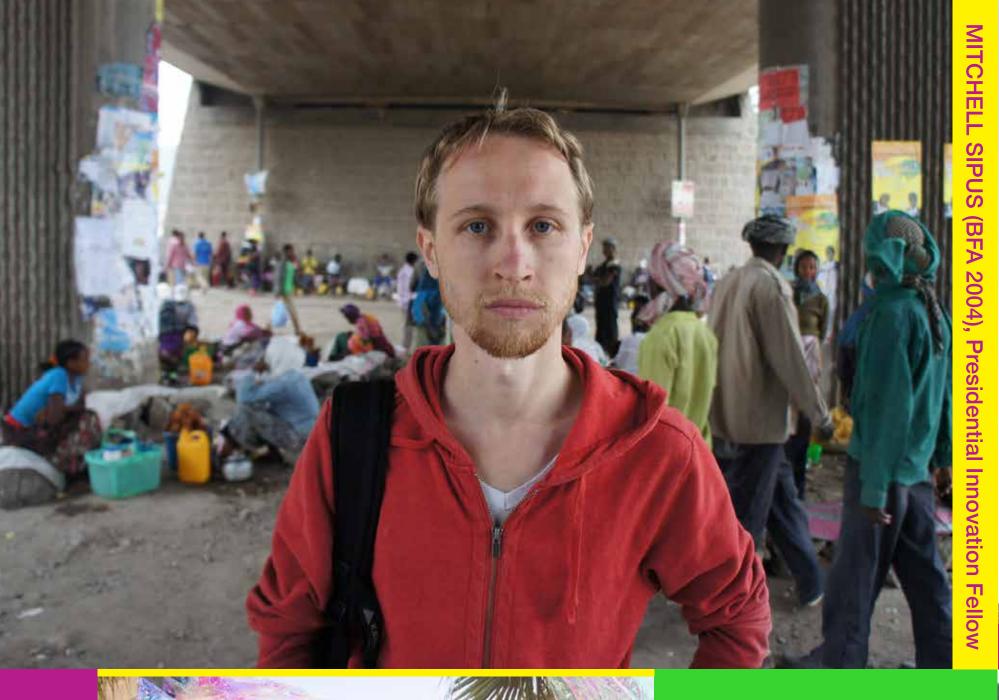
Art, Design and Social Practice
Artist as Writer
Astronomy
Graffiti and Street Art
History of the Tattoo
Sound Art
Zen and the Creative Process
Zoology

# STUDIO ARTS EXAMPLES:

Academy Design Service
Digital Drawing
Exhibition Studio
Experimental Photography
Garment Design
Screen Printing
Video Documentary
Web Design



Our students and alumni are more than rebellious: they make art that makes an impact. They create change in their communities and across the globe. And establish the rules the future will follow.





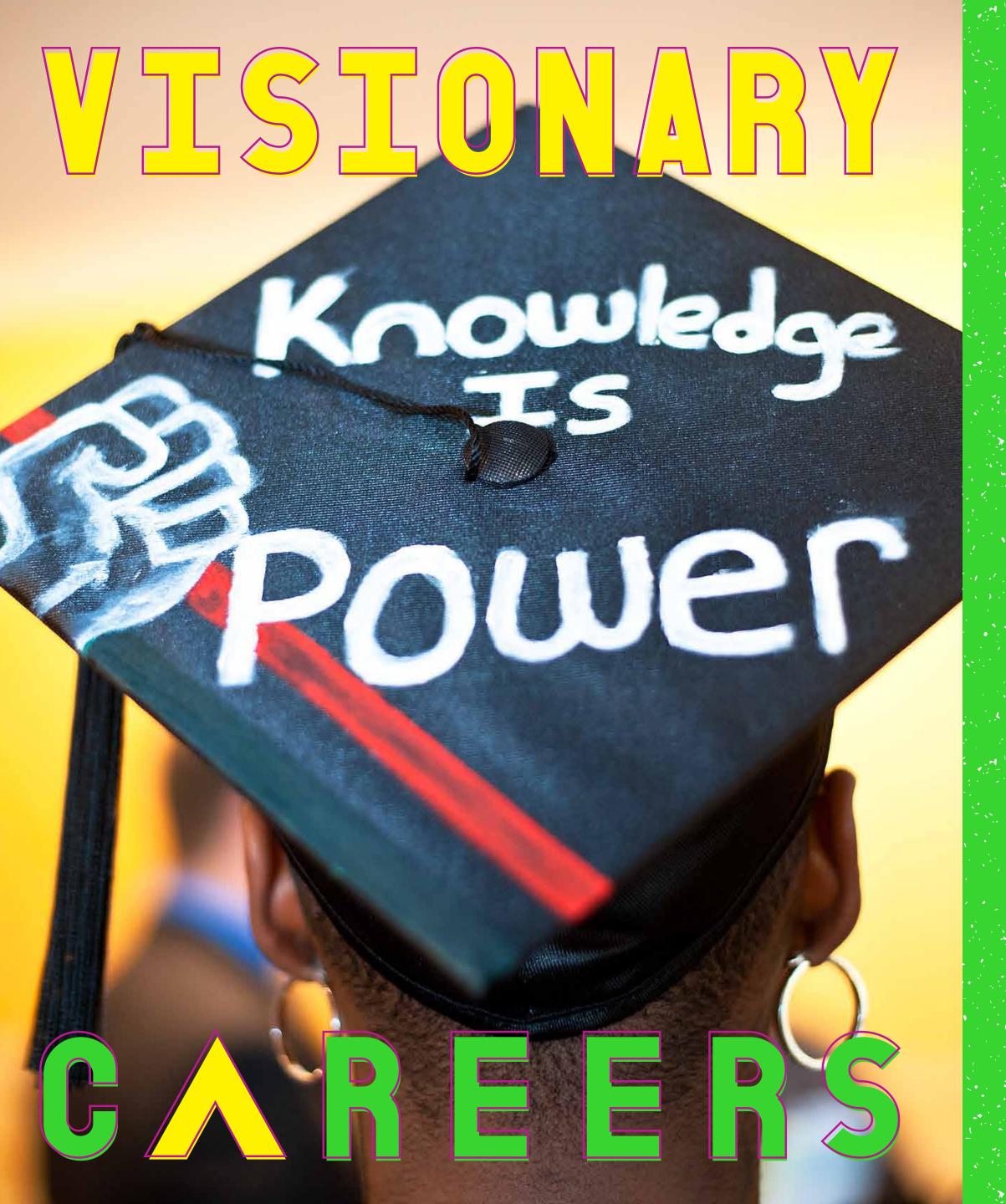


NOEL MAGHATH

"The curriculum at the Art Academy of Cincinnati really helped prepare me for graduate school. I discovered that the curriculum is not that different from a graduate program. We have the same kind of critique process and studio meetings."

ELYSE JOHNSON (BFA 2015) graduate student at Parsons school of art and design





"When I go into schools and talk about my work, I bring awareness to my culture, my race, and how passion for art can create change."

ERIKA ALLEN (BFA 2020) and volunteer for The World Affairs Council

At the Art Academy, it is our mission to prepare you for a substantive and satisfying creative life beyond art school. Our ABC (Applied Business Certificate) program will provide the professional development support you need to shape a career that fits your vision.

Through internships at top area galleries, museums, and design firms, you'll learn what it takes to connect and collaborate with our city's most celebrated creative innovators.

During our rigorous senior capstone experience, you will present your work in a professional setting, just as you would in our country's top graduate programs.

Through internships in a variety of fields, our students connect to top area firms, galleries, and arts organizations, including:

# BLDG

Carnegie Art Center
Cincinnati Art Museum
Cincinnati Ballet
Cincy Music
CityBeat
Clay Street Press

Click 360°
DIY Printing
Desky

Envoi Design
Fifth Third Bank
Flash Photography
FotoFocus Cincinnati
LPK

Landor Associates
Lightborne Communications
Manifest Gallery
OMS Photography
Powerhouse Factories
Procter & Gamble
Public Library of Cincinnati
Push/Pull Studios
Reverb Art & Design

Rookwood Pottery
Southpaw Prints
Taft Museum of Art
Weston Art Gallery at
the Aronoff Center

In addition to these internships, Art Academy students have served as studio assistants to prominent national and international artists.

# 

The impact of an Art Academy education doesn't stop at graduation. Our alumni have gone on to have a powerful impact on the landscape of contemporary art and design. Many are employed by top creative firms and galleries, both locally and globally. Others have used the entrepreneurial skills they gained as students to launch their own creative firms and



In 2016, alumni Mitchell Sipus was appointed a Presidential Innovation Fellow at the White House by President Obama. Previously he applied his creative skills to global problems by building companies that applied human centered design to the needs of refugee camps and cities in conflict.

# DIFEBENCE

"The Art Academy consistently takes chances on people like me. It is a community of outsiders. While most colleges chart a path for your future, the Art Academy provided a compass to guide me through the deep woods of the unknown. It pushes students to invent new models of production, new identities as artists, and to take life to the frontier of possibility."

MITCHELL SIPUS (BFA 2004) Presidential Innovation Fellow

































cincinnati 🛠 art museum



Your journey to joining our radiant community starts today. The Admissions Office at the Art Academy of Cincinnati is here to help you make your dreams a reality through generous scholarships, financial aid packages, and support. All you have to do is take the first step. Keep reading to learn how to begin your journey.

# FIVE TIPS FOR APPLYING TO COLLEGE:

- It is normal to feel anxiety when applying to college.

  Some anxiety in life can be helpful, as it helps us prepare for a big undertaking.
- Starting college is one of the biggest adjustments a person can face in a lifetime. It can be as stressful as getting married or having a baby. This is a big deal!
- Remember that feelings, like anxiousness, are just feelings. They are temporary. Think of your first time on a roller coaster or diving board. We can push through our fears and come out okay on the other side.
- Ask for help. It can be a scary thing to do. If you feel overwhelmed with the application process or financial aid, we have people who can help you.
- Know that you are not alone. Everyone else in your shoes is feeling the same way.

PROVIDED BY AAC MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR CASEY RIORDAN

As you move through the application process, we encourage you to submit each piece as soon as you complete it.

# 1 APPLICATION

**Undergraduate Admissions** www.artacademy.edu/apply

# 3 TRANSCRIPTS

The Art Academy of Cincinnati accepts self-reported grades for high school. Final transcripts with graduation year will be required prior to starting class. \*Transfer students must submit college transcripts prior to admittance.

2 PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Your Portfolio demonstrates your artistic abilities and gives us a sense of your potential to succeed as a college-level artist. It is one of the most important parts of the admission process, so show us your best work. The Portfolio must include 8–10 pieces of your best original artwork that shows your technical and creative abilities.

Consider the following criteria when assembling your Portfolio:

Submit your portfolio by uploading it to aac.slideroom.com, bringing it to an open house, or making an appointment with the Admissions Office at 513-562-6262.

- Works that demonstrate personal ideas, concepts, and commitment as an artist
- Self-driven works created in as well as outside of classes
- Works that are multi-media, traditional, non-traditional, and New Genre
- Journals/sketchbooks are welcome

In addition to the above items, all international students must submit the following:

TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION (GPA requirement of 2.0 or higher.)

PASSPORT
(Email a color photocopy of your current passport photo identification page.)

For information on applying as an international student visit: www.artacademy.edu/international

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

(TOEFL, Duolingo, IELTS. ELP may be waived after speaking with our International Coordinator.)

BANK STATEMENT

(Notarized bank documentation of funds in USD to support one year of study and living expenses at AAC.)



# **Transfer**

If you are considering transferring, the Art Academy of Cincinnati is the place for you. Our close-knit community is a place you can call home. We'll help you every step of the way as you find your niche and work to reach your true artistic potential.

Students wishing to transfer to the Art Academy of Cincinnati must submit all items noted above, plus all college or university transcripts, to the Admissions Office. (ACT/SAT scores are not required.)

Transcripts are evaluated by Art Academy Department Chairs and transfer credits are placed accordingly in a student's credit audit. Transfer students are eligible for Entrance Scholarship Awards based on portfolio merit.

The Art Academy of Cincinnati participates in articulation agreements with the colleges listed here. Please contact the Admissions Office or the Registrar for further details.

- University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash College, Blue Ash, OH
- Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN

- **Chatfield College**
- Sinclair College
- University of New Mexico-Taos
- Vermont College of Fine Art-MAT Program Dual Enrollment

# **DACA**

All students regardless of nationality or citizenship are welcome and encouraged to apply and attend the Art Academy of Cincinnati. Our staff and faculty are fully committed to helping students of all backgrounds, including students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status and those without DACA status, the chance to further their creativity.

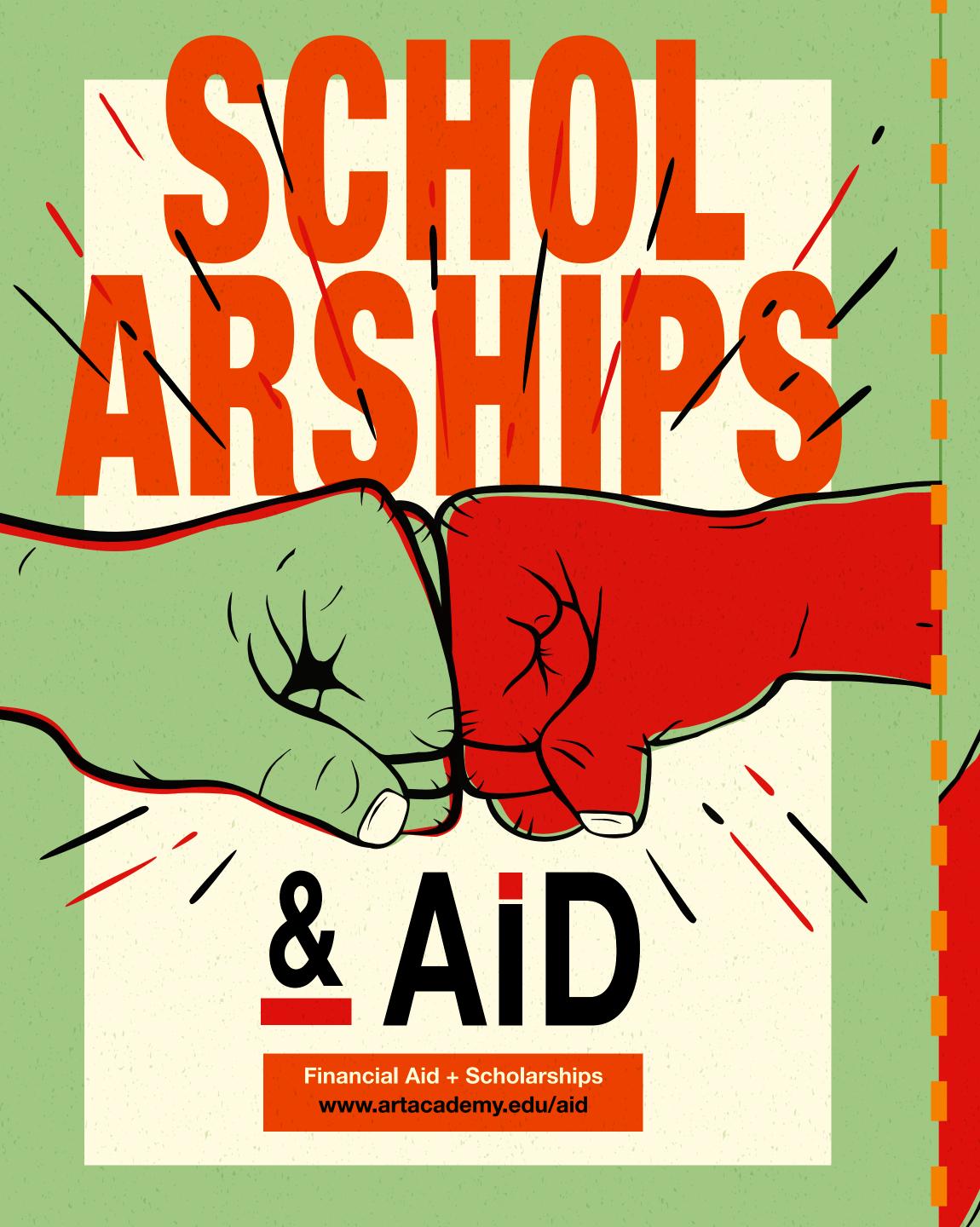
Visit our website for more DACA related information.

# **Veterans Benefits**

The Art Academy of Cincinnati is certified by the State Approving Agency and the Veterans Administration for educational benefits for veterans.

Transfer Students
www.artacademy.edu/transfer

International Students
www.artacademy.edu/international



# The Art Academy is the first and only private art and design college in the country to implement the Four-Year Tuition Promise! We want to instill a sense of transparency in the college process, and grant families and students the stability they deserve while they work towards becoming the future creatives of tomorrow. Learn more at www.artacademy.edu/promise

# We Are Here to Assist You

The Financial Aid Office at the Art Academy of Cincinnati is here to assist you in financing your college education. Navigating the world of student aid is like assembling a puzzle. As we put all the pieces together, we create your unique financial picture. This guide will better acquaint students and parents with the basics of student aid and outline the steps you can take now to maximize your options.

# Where to Start

Start by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov to determine your eligibility for federal and state grants, and low interest student loans. The Art Academy of Cincinnati filing deadline is May 1. Our school code is 003011.

# **Federal Student Aid**

Grants Your FAFSA will determine if you are eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant, a Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), or an Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG). Grant funds do not have to be repaid and are directly applied to your tuition costs.

Student Loans All eligible freshmen students who complete a FAFSA can receive \$5,500 in low-interest, Federal Direct Stafford Student Loan. A portion of this loan amount may be subsidized, this means the federal government will pay the interest on that part of the loan while you are enrolled in college.

Federal Student Work Study may be available to students who are financially eligible. Students must apply for work study positions and funds are limited.

# **Institutional Aid**

Entrance Awards The Art Academy of Cincinnati is a place where students are rewarded for their hard work, dedication, and vision. You can showcase your work and your commitment to academics by applying for our merit-based entrance awards.

The Entrance Scholarship is a merit-based award offered on an ongoing basis to students accepted to the Bachelor of Fine Arts program. The Entrance Scholarship will be based on a combination of portfolio and academic performance.

The Admissions Office takes each component of the application into account to determine the scholarship award amount.

- Portfolio Review
- Application Questionnaire Responses
- Letters of Recommendation (Optional)
- High School GPA
- College GPA (Transfer Student Only)
- Personal Statement (Optional)

# **Post Graduation Support**

# **Scholarships + Assistantships**

Your life as an artist will continue well beyond your college years.

We know that after graduation, artists need support so they can continue honing their creative work as they enter the professional world. That's why we offer scholarships, teaching assistantships, and other opportunities that can help make your transition smoother.

"I used my Wilder Traveling Award to travel with my father to his home in Halhul, West Bank, Palestine. I wanted to use the award to reconnect with this part of my life, and to experience being a queer person/femme in Palestine firsthand. While I was there, I used social media outlets to connect with other queer Palestinians and create work together. This experience changed the way I think about art-making and showed me how much of an impact it can have."

NOEL MAGHATHE (BFA 2017), WILDER TRAVEING AWARD RECIPIENT

# DESIGN

NICK PAPARONE (BFA 2003) UPDATED BY LUKAS KALINOSKI (BFA 2019)



MEGAN MARTIN, LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

# PHOTOGRAPHERS

JIMMY BAKER, CHELSEY HUGHES (BFA 2010), ELISA FAY (BFA 2020), SHUKRI LAWERNCE, NIKKI NESBIT (BFA 2018), JACK NICHOLS (BFA 2020), AMANDA PARKER-WOLERY, CATIE VIOX (BFA 2014), ERIN WOLFE (BFA 2014).

# SPECIALTHANKS

ALL THE FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS WHO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE IN THE CREATION OF THIS VIEWBOOK.

# ACCREDITATION

THE ART ACADEMY OF CINCINNATI IS A PRIVATE, NOT-FOR-PROFIT, INDEPENDENT COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN. WE ARE ACCREDITED BY THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION (HLC) AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF ART AND DESIGN (NASAD), WHERE WE ARE A CHARTER MEMBER.

THE ART ACADEMY OF CINCINNATI IS A CHARTER MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES OF ART AND DESIGN (AICAD). THIS CONSORTIUM OF OVER 40 PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES OF ART AND DESIGN IS DEDICATED TO EXCHANGING INFORMATION THAT SUPPORTS THE CREATION OF PROGRAMS THAT WILL BENEFIT STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF. THE ART ACADEMY IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE GREATER CINCINNATI COLLEGIATE CONNECTION.



