

G. W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology

938 York Road
Towson, MD 21204

Visual Arts

2024-2025 Assessment Guidelines

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Eligibility

Applications must be submitted on or before 1 p.m. on Friday, November 3, 2023. Applications can be accessed from the [BCPS Magnet Programs' Web site \(www.tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet\)](http://www.tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet) beginning at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. Late applications are not processed.

Applicants must attend and complete the assessment for the program to which they applied. Failure to do so will disqualify the applicant; and admission into the magnet program will be denied.

Applicants may only assess for the program(s) to which they applied. Assessments completed for a program not selected on the application will not be scored.

Documented testing accommodations, as appropriate to the assessment, will be provided. Education plans for students not currently attending a BCPS school must be submitted with the magnet application.

Assessment Scheduling

Assessments must be scheduled through the online application system when the application is submitted.

Failure to attend an assessment and submit virtual requirements WILL result in disqualification.

If there are scheduling conflicts with other magnet assessments, parents must contact the Magnet Programs' office by no later than November 8, 2023.

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) to:

- ensure the applicant attends the assessment on the scheduled date and time.
- ensure the applicant brings the required materials to the assessment.
- contact the schools immediately if an unforeseen illness or emergency occurs.

Unforeseen Illness or Emergency: If the applicant cannot attend or complete the scheduled assessment due to an unforeseen illness or emergency, **please immediately contact G. W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology at (443) 809-2793.** Please be aware that assessments will not be rescheduled without documentation verifying the illness or emergency. Documentation must be provided to the school within 72 hours of the illness or emergency.

Inclement Weather: If school activities are cancelled due to inclement weather, magnet assessments will be postponed. Postponed assessments will occur on the designated inclement weather date. All emergency closing and cancellation information will be posted on the BCPS automated information line, (443) 809-5555. Closings and cancellation announcements may also be made through local media.

Academic Integrity

By taking the BCPS magnet assessments, applicants agree NOT to participate in any of the following activities. Violation of this agreement may result in disqualification:

- Submitting, copying, or attempting to copy another's work, including plagiarizing another's words or ideas
- Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials and/or technology
- Falsifying information in an academic exercise
- Assisting another in academic dishonesty

Assessment Overview

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Preparing for the Assessment

Applicants will submit a Portfolio online by the submission deadline. Applicants will also attend a school-based assessment where they will complete an Assessment Drawing.

Portfolio Submission

Portfolio Submission Deadline: January 13, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Portfolio Submission Link: <https://forms.gle/YUst86huJ1yrWEvx9>

- Students must use the Google Form link above to upload their portfolio documents by the submission deadline. Non-BCPS students will need to establish a Google or Yahoo account to access the Google Form. BCPS students will access the Google Form using their BCPS account.
- Failure to submit the Google Form by the deadline will result in disqualification from this program.
- The submission form will be open November 6, 2023 – January 13, 2024, at 11:59 pm.
- Students should plan to submit their work as early as possible to allow time to resolve any technical issues that might arise.
- Students must have all documents prepared and ready to upload prior to accessing the Google Form. Documents must be uploaded during the same session. All documents must be uploaded before clicking Submit. Students will only be allowed to submit once.
- Students should name each file using their first and last name and the component type in the format “LastName_FirstName_Component”. For example, the file for a self-portrait by Joe Smith would be named “Smith_Joe_SelfPortrait”.
- Files must be no more than 100 MB for videos, 10 MB for photos, or 1 MB for documents. Files must be .jpg, .doc, .docx, .pdf, or .mp4.
- For technical issues or questions, applicants should contact Joe Cypressi at jcypressi@bcps.org.

Portfolio Requirements

- 100% of the work must be completed by the applicant only.
- Failure to upload **all** required documents by the deadline may result in disqualification from this program.
- The minimum time spent working on each requirement listed below should be no less than 3 hours.
- All drawing, painting, or sculpture works must be executed from direct observation (from life, not copied or imagined).
- All video work must include editing and be between 1-3 minutes in length.
- All work must be signed and dated.
- For a tutorial on how best to photograph your work, see the [Photographing Art YouTube tutorial \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHIUqNP_PFA\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHIUqNP_PFA).

A. Self-Portrait Drawing from Direct Observation: Make an 18”x24” drawing of yourself in the mirror. Using a drawing pencil or charcoal, **include an interesting environment** as seen in **a mirror**. For more information, see [Self Portrait YouTube tutorial \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6xbB3uJ4xw\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6xbB3uJ4xw).

B. Still-life from Direct Observation: Drawing or Painting: Make an 18” x 24” drawing or painting of at least 5 objects that you arranged and lit. The piece should have an environment and indicate there is a light source shining from a particular direction. Include cast shadows and full range of values. For more information, see [Still Life YouTube tutorial \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TntiGi6SPG4\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TntiGi6SPG4).

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- C. Create a single composition incorporating at least 5 of the silhouettes found on the attached sheet marked Portfolio Composition Sheet:** Applicant may use any medium, 2D or 3D, analog or digital, to fill in, alter, and re-arrange the silhouettes and their details that are not presently evident to create an interesting new composition. There is no single correct solution. Be creative. The sky is the limit. You may only submit 1 image for this. For more information, see the [Five Silhouettes YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7rlqlsDCcQ) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7rlqlsDCcQ>).
- D. Student Choice. Based on what you enjoy doing, complete ONE of the following 5 works. You may upload up to 5 images of the ONE work you have created, depending upon which work you chose.**
- 1. Sculpture:** Make a single sculpture of a fruit **and** a vegetable in as much detail as possible. Consider cutting, breaking, or biting them. Consider how you arrange them together. Make the sculpture out of anything you have access to (clay, papier-mâché, wire, cardboard, found objects, etc.) **but do not paint it.** This is about form and texture, not color. The sculpture should be at least 8 inches in its largest dimension (length, width, or height). Scoring will consider arrangement, detail, and craftsmanship. Submit 4 pictures of your sculpture, each from a different angle. Please have a clean background and good lighting. For more information, see [Student Choice 1 Sculpture YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wzpQYDnohhM) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wzpQYDnohhM>).
 - 2. Film:** Make a short film of someone making a sandwich. Use your shots and lighting to make it feel more dramatic than it is. **Use 10 distinct shots.** Plan out your shots. Each shot should show something new and vary in size, angle, and length. **Do NOT use music** unless it is something you made (composed, preformed and recorded). Rely on your imagery and pacing to engage the viewer. Maximum Running Time: 1:30 (90 seconds). Give your movie a **title**. You may submit one video with your portfolio by providing a YouTube link, or uploading an mp4 file. For more information, see [Student Choice 2 Film YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vV1WKi0oaWY) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vV1WKi0oaWY>).
 - 3. Photograph:** "Portrait of a Place." Create a series of 3-5 photographs of a place that is meaningful to you. Treat the environment as your portrait subject. What do your photographs say about this place? What is this place's story? Scoring will consider composition, lighting, and conceptual content. For more information, see [Student Choice 3 Photograph YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRoJK1Hjmdw) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRoJK1Hjmdw>).
 - 4. Digital:** "Photographic Composite." Create a digital composite by layering 3-5 photographs that you shot to create a new and perhaps impossible scene. The combination should be as seamless as possible, and the images should contain consistent lighting. Think about the composition and how the images together will utilize the space. Upload 1 jpeg of your finished image. For more information, see [Student Choice 4 Digital YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldDoS0fJsfs) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldDoS0fJsfs>).
 - 5. Painting:** "Self Portrait without Self". Set up a still life or an environment that represents some part or parts of who you are. Think about what certain objects or spaces might mean to you. Make sure the lighting is intentional. Paint this set up with attention to detail, light, and color. Upload one jpeg of your painting. For more information, see [Student Choice 5 Painting YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pthUvrTZf4c) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pthUvrTZf4c>).
- E. Artists you look at:** What artists do you look at? Create a presentation showing us 3-5 pictures of their work and tell us why you like them. It can be from a few different artists or just one. The presentation can be a PowerPoint (maximum 6 slides) or Word document (maximum 2-page length with pictures). For more information, see [Artists You Look At YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOSStQnWIPIk) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOSStQnWIPIk>).

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In-Person Assessment Drawing

Civil and considerate behavior, attentiveness and time spent drawing are required and monitored during the assessment. Students who are uncivil or disruptive during the assessment process will be asked to leave and will be disqualified.

Required Materials: Applicants must bring the following materials on the day of the assessment.

- 18" x 24" drawing pad. Do not bring newspaper.
- Pencils – you will be allowed to use only black graphite pencils (2B-6B recommended)
- Eraser

Assessment Drawing:

On the day of your assessment, applicants will spend two hours drawing a still-life. This drawing will not be returned.

The following criteria will be applied when scoring the Assessment Drawing:

- Composition/Originality (intelligent use of the picture plane)
- Ability to Describe Form / Attention to Detail (accuracy and sense of truth)
- Value and Quality of Mark (full range of tones from black to white and attention to light and shadows)
- Proportion, Volume and Space (size relationships and weight of forms)

For more information, see [Audition Day Drawing YouTube tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5Dvf_rshPs) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5Dvf_rshPs).

Visual Arts Department Goals & Expectations:

What are the goals and expectations?

- To teach the techniques and concepts that will help students think and work creatively.
- To prepare students through portfolio development, to successfully apply as an art major to the college of their choice.
- To teach the visual values that will help define our students' aesthetic philosophies.
- To help students become familiar with the art and artists throughout history who have shaped our cultural heritage.
- To help students develop good working habits and professional habits of mind.

How are these goals and expectations accomplished?

- Studio lessons are given daily. Visual Arts students take at least two credits of art per year. Art instruction occurs for 1 1/2 hours to 3 hours depending on the course level and schedule.
- Carver Center students are expected to be respectful of their environment in and out of the studio.
- Students are required to carry a sketch book at all times and to draw daily.
- Students are required to maintain a portfolio of their work.
- All classes have required home assignments on a daily or weekly basis. Home assignments are graded and count as a substantial portion of the student's grade.
- Carver Center students are expected to be focused and maintain a strong work ethic and practice professional habits of mind.
- The Visual Arts program is rooted in a fine arts philosophy with an emphasis on drawing. Students are taught to gather visual information by looking and thinking about their own environment so they can describe their own visual experiences.
- Anime and cartooning are not part of the Visual Arts curriculum at Carver Center.

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Course Information:

All Visual Arts students are required to take Foundations and the magnet level 2 Drawing/Painting course. At least two Visual Arts courses per year are also required. For more detailed course descriptions and examples of student work, visit the GWCCAT website.

Students that receive a cumulative B+ or higher in their art prime classes may elect to take a 3rd art course sophomore through senior year.

COURSES

*Foundation Rotation, *Drawing/Painting II, Filmmaking, Figure Painting, Figure Sculpture, Digital Fine Art, Painting, Photography, Sculpture and AP Studio

SCHEDULE

Students begin to customize their art courses after Foundation Rotation.

G9 and all incoming transfer students- Foundation Rotation (2 credits)

G10- Drawing/Painting II (1 credit), Art Elective (1 credit)

G11 – Art Electives (2 credits)

G12 – Art Electives (2 credits)

*= course requirement

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CARVER CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION DRAWING SHEET

