

Dear **Visual Art** Students,

Congratulations!

The faculty and staff are delighted to have you as a part of GSA for the summer of 2023. You will participate in the first of two exciting sessions that will exponentially grow your knowledge and love for the arts. We promise you it is going to be a beautiful three weeks together. This packet is designed to give you a sense of what GSA will be like and what you need to do in preparation for the program.

To start off, we (the Visual Art faculty) like to lay out the binding principle that we feel is the underlying theme to our teachings: Ultimately, the most powerful and connective artistic expression can be found in the pursuit of our deepest personal truths. Those truths that inform our work are born from the experiences of our beautiful and complex lives. It is our resiliency in the face of adversity that ultimately gives birth to our achievements. We as faculty believe that herein lies the powerful gift that is the GSA experience. We embrace the journey we are about to embark on together because as lifelong creative individuals, we are accustomed to moving in directions with unknown destinations and overcoming unforeseen obstacles. Your faculty see themselves as problem solvers seeking to inspire a new generation of hardened, tempered fixers. At present, there is an abundance of need in the world, and we are committed to being a part of the solution. We hope you as students are as committed to this venture as we are. In the end, it will require both courage and our faith in each other in order to see the experience reach its potential.

Time moves fast, so please read the following carefully. June 11th, 2023 will be upon us very soon.

During GSA, you will be working in three different studio areas:

1. **Drawing & Painting** (instructor: **Aubrey Nibert**)
2. **Printmaking** (instructor: **Susan Harrison**)
3. **Sculpture/ Ceramics** (instructors: **Hannah Smith & Sean M. Starowitz**)

The Visual Art program includes studio projects, guest artists, and field trips during the first two weeks, with more independent work, documentation and exhibition preparation during the third week. In addition to creating works of art, we ask that you contribute verbally in critiques and that you keep a minimum of two sketchbooks (a new one any size you like and an old one full of sketches and ideas). It is important that you come to GSA with lots of ideas and imagery you are ready to develop further.

What To Do Before GSA

- **Spend some time at a local art museum, library or bookstore. Then, use the Internet to gather information on some artists, techniques, ideas, or artwork that speaks to you.** Please bring these sources of information with you to develop your ideas and share with your classmates. We will be asking you about these during the program.
- **Please review the Master Artist List below (as well as the list provided on pages 5-6), and choose five artists that speak to you.** Print out some samples of their work and attach them to one of your new sketchbooks. Then create some sketches and contour line drawings in the manner of the artists chosen. Be prepared to discuss why you chose their work and what exactly interests you about their work.

Master Artist List Cyril Power Willem de Kooning	Walker Evans Jan Groover Vivian Maier	Richard Hunt Tara Donovan Tim Hawkinson
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Auguste Rodin Martin Puryear Wassily Kandinsky Elizabeth Catlett Jean Arp Alice Neel Mark Bradford Amy Sherald	Marc Chagall Eva Hesse Henri Cartier-Bresson Yayoi Kusama Edvard Munch Kathe Kollwitz Kerry James Marshall Kara Walker	Georgia O'Keefe Lucien Freud Kitaj Frida Kahlo Henry Moore Augusto Giacometti Kehinde Wiley Carrie Mae Weims
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Mental Preparation

You will be involved daily with students, activities, and presentations from other disciplines during the program. The other art forms offered during the summer program include **Architecture + Design, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Film + Photography, and Vocal Music**. It is very important that you come with an open mind, a positive attitude, and a willingness to participate in the artistic community. We hope that you will play a key role in making this an amazing experience for your fellow classmates.

Last, we ask that you please examine the **supply list** and **project preparations** on the following pages closely. Though we will furnish most art supplies, you are encouraged to also have some of your own. However, **if you are unable to purchase any items below due to financial reasons**, please send GSA a detailed request IMMEDIATELY to gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org. We're happy to help!

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, June 11th!

Get ready for the opportunity for an amazing, life-changing experience! The rest will be up to you.

Sincerely,

Hannah Smith, Sean M. Starowitz, Susan Harrison & Aubrey Nibert – *The Visual Art Faculty*.

VISUAL ART SUPPLY LIST

Art Wear & Cleanup

- Old **t-shirt, smock** and/or cloth **apron**
- Closed-toe **shoes**
- **Sunhat, sunscreen, and sunglasses**
- Four old **t-shirts** (to **print make on** and to use as rags for cleanup in painting and printmaking)
- **Towel** (to sit on outside)
- Bottle of **hand lotion**
- Two pairs of **reusable** rubber or latex **gloves** (for printmaking)
- Pack of **baby wipes**
- Box of latex, rubber, vinyl or nitrile **disposable gloves** (for sculpture)
- One pair of **clear lens safety glasses** (not tinted or colored)

Art Tools

- **Hard-copy photos** for image references. You will not have access to your phone or internet while in the studios nor the ability to photocopy
- **Empty portfolio** – 24"x36" (homemade or purchased)
- 22" or 30" **Masonite** or **lightweight wooden drawing board**, *labeled with your name*
- Roll of **blue painter's tape**
- **Large clips (bull dog clips)** for holding paper on your drawing board
- **Exacto knife** (#11 or other) and/or **utility knife**
- 18" **metal ruler with cork back**
- Pair of **sharp scissors**
- **Fish tackle** or **art box** (with handle) for carrying and storing your supplies

Art Materials & Mark-Making Supplies

- **Two sketch books (one new, one old)**
 - **New sketchbook (size of your choice)** is what you'll have at all times to take notes and sketch (Again, this is what you'll use for the research on your 5 chosen artists).
 - **Old sketchbook** is already full of great ideas, sketches, and/or prints of your own photographic images.
- **Your favorite mark-making materials**, such as a set of watercolors, Crayola markers (bold or original), pastels and/or oil pastels and/or colored pencils and assorted drawing pencils (2b, 6b or whatever you like to use!)
- **Other personal favorite art supplies/ brushes** that you may want to use when working independently. (We will provide all of the necessary supplies for you for formal projects!)
- **Kneaded and/or plastic eraser**
- **Sharpies** – thick and thin-lined for drawing
- **A fine detail paintbrush**
- **Workable fixative spray** used on charcoals and pastel drawings
- Bring at least **3 different sized recycled containers**, plastic works best (yogurt, milk cartons, etc) but cardboard can work as well (pasta boxes, etc.), some bags can work as well (chip bags, etc.) as long as there are no pin holes in the sides or bottom of the bag.

Art Inspiration

- **A few objects that could be used to create a still life and inspire you for drawings.** Try to bring some that are **transparent** and some that are **opaque**.
 - For example, something made out of glass or plastic (transparent) versus a dark, solid object (opaque). In other words: a variety of small objects, in man-made and natural forms, that absorb light and reflect light and have interesting textures and shapes.
- **Original color and black/white photographs**, as well as **original drawings** you've made.
- **Sketches and drawings** created in the manner of the 5 specific artists you've chosen from the lists provided. We'd also like you to bring a few hard-copy printouts of their work.
 - **REMINDERS**
 - Print out samples of the 5 artists' work and create sketches and contour line drawings in your new sketchbook. Do this in the manner of the artists themselves.
 - Be prepared to discuss why you chose their work and what exactly interests you about it.

Miscellaneous Supplies

- **Spending Money** – Though housing, meals, room, and board are covered by GSA, you might want a little extra money for GSA merch on-campus or souvenirs during field trips.
- **Face Masks/Coverings** – GSA is not currently planning to require masks, but if a student would like to wear one at any time, they are welcome to do so. If you would prefer to wear masks while at the program, please pack enough to last all three weeks.

PRINTMAKING PREPARATION

Instructor – **Susan Harrison**

At GSA, you will be introduced to a range of printmaking processes and approaches that enable you to combine traditional hand-drawn images with photographic image transfers. You will print your images using traditional etching printing presses, as well as hand-rubbing techniques. It is important that you come with images and ideas that you can easily transfer and copy onto printable surfaces we will be creating. I recommend you:

1. bring photocopies (Xerox) of high-contrast personal drawings and personal photographs that you would like to play with. Preferably, the images should be ORIGINAL and have definite lights and bold dark tones. Images should not be larger than 8.5" X 11". Think about how different images might work together if layered on top of each other. It's good to note that gray (flat) images do not translate very well.
2. bring at least one magazine that has high glossy images in it such as a fashion magazine.
3. bring a plain new or used t-shirt on which you can print one of your printmaking images.

DRAWING & PAINTING PREPARATION

Instructor – **Aubrey Nibert**

The Drawing and Painting studio will focus on direct observation skills. Students will work toward developing their individual artistic perspective by working with live models, direct observations studies, and weather permitting, some exposure to Plein Air painting. Students will be introduced to Bargue Plates in the drawing studio and using the Zorn Palette in painting. All supplies will be provided but students may find it useful to bring some of the items on the non-required list of supplies.

Non-required **ART SUPPLIES**

At GSA, the only resource you are required to bring is YOURSELF!
However, you may like to bring a few supplies. Here is a list of supplies that is not essential to bring, but you may benefit from while at GSA.

THE MOST USEFUL SUPPLIES WOULD BE...

1. A SMALL DETAIL PAINTBRUSH
(b/c frayed bristles can be annoying!)
2. A METAL PALETTE KNIFE
(b/c they're easier to mix paint with)
3. A PACK OF BABY WIPES
(b/c they make clean-up so much easier!)
4. OLD TOWEL FOR RAGS
5. A LARGE PIZZA/FLAT BOX
(to store your wet paintings in while not in the studio)
6. STRETCHED CANVAS
(We will have unstretched canvas, but if you would like to paint on a stretched canvas, you may bring a couple)



SOME OTHER HANDY THINGS....

1. BOX OF DISPOSABLE LATEX GLOVES
(b/c it's better for your skin)
2. ANY OTHER FAVORED PAINT BRUSHES
3. FAVORITE PAINTS, MARKERS, PASTELS, PENS, ETC.
4. A PALETTE + CLIP ON PALETTE CUPS
(some people like to paint with a palette in hand, some people don't)
5. STAINLESS STEEL BRUSH CLEANER
(it's just nice for cleaning your brushes)



**ALL ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES + MATERIALS ARE PROVIDED BY GSA.
THESE ARE ONLY SUGGESTIONS OF THINGS YOU MAY LIKE TO
HAVE.

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE PREPARATION

Instructors – **Hannah Smith** & **Sean M. Starowitz**

At GSA, you will get introduced to a range of **spatial thinking** and **sculptural/3D techniques**. By working with ceramics and not-so-traditional materials, we will explore how different methods of making will expand your artistic practice. We will work through a variety of projects that will challenge scale, material, and conceptual making. During the program, we strongly encourage interdisciplinary thinking and collaboration between Visual Art and GSA's eight other art forms.

Ceramics & Sculpture Artist List	Olafur Eliasson
Mika Rottenberg	Gracelee Lawrence
Anthony Gormely	Louise Bourgeois
Roberto Lugo	Thomas Demand
Simone Leigh	Maria Montoya Martinez
Karyn Olivier	Bread and Puppet Theater
Claus Oldenburg	Alexander Calder
Squallis Puppeteers	Abigail Deville
Raven Halfmoon	Rachel Whiteread
Christo & Jeanne Claude	Cornelia Parker
Samantha Dickie	Doris Salcedo
Raheleh Filsoofi	Georgia Blizzard

How To Prepare For This Project (Before GSA) – Please spend some time online or in the library researching various ceramic forms throughout human history. Look at a wide variety of vessel forms and shapes. Which ones attract your attention and why? Then research the global tradition of Face Jugs. There are examples from Pre-Columbian America to ancient Greece. Early European examples include the German stoneware Bartmann jug to the British Toby Jug. Especially prominent in the American South, mostly consisting of the 19th-century African-American slave folk art tradition. What are the different ways the human form and face is rendered through sculptural elements? What do different face jugs tell you about each culture and tradition?