

Dear **Visual Art** Students,

CONGRATULATIONS! You will participate in the second 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. Time moves fast, so please read the following carefully. July 9thth, 2023 will be upon us very soon!

To start off, we (the Visual Art faculty) like to lay out the binding principle that we feel is the underlying teaching philosophy: 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.

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

1. **Drawing & Painting** (instructor **Nathaniel Hendrickson**)
2. **Printmaking** (instructor **Hannah Smith**)
3. **Ceramics & Sculpture** (instructors **Azucena Trejo Williams & 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 to 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 choose **two** artists from the **Master Artist List** below (as well as **three** more artists—one from each additional list provided for our three studio areas throughout this document). If you're having a hard time choosing, ask yourself this: **"Which five artists speak the most to me?"** Print out some samples of their work and attach them to your new sketchbook. Then, create some sketches and contour line drawings in the manner of the **five** artists chosen. Be prepared to discuss why you chose their work and what exactly interests you about his or her work. *Please note that you might be asked to use these drawings and work samples to create art at GSA.*

Master Artist List	Gabriel Chaile	Richard Hunt
Nick Cave	Cornelia Parker	Tara Donovan

Wangechi Mutu	Giorgio Morandi	Tim Hawkinson
Paula Rego	Alexander Calder	Georgia O'Keefe
Martin Puryear	Eva Hesse	Liu Xiaodong
Julie Mehretu	Wendy Red Star	Simone Leigh
Elizabeth Catlett	Yayoi Kusama	R.B. Kitaj
Hassan Khan	Edvard Munch	Leonora Carrington
Xinyi Cheng	Kathe Kollwitz	Henry Moore
Roberto Lugo	Nazgol Ansarinia	Ana Mendieta
William Kentridge	Frida Khalo	Barti Kher
Ruth Asawa	Fritz Scholder	Marina Abramovic

Mental Preparation

You will be involved daily with students from many disciplines during GSA. The other art forms our summer program offers are **Architecture + Design, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film + Photography, Musical Theatre, Visual Art, 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, July 9th!

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

Sincerely,

Azucena Trejo Williams, Hannah Smith, Nathaniel Hendrickson & Sean M. Starowitz – *The Visual Art Faculty*

VISUAL ART SUPPLY LIST

Art Wear & Cleanup

- Old **t-shirt, smock** and/or cloth **apron**
- Closed-toe **shoes**
- **Sunhat, sunglasses, and sunscreen**
- Four old **t-shirts** (to print on and to use as rags for cleanup in painting and printmaking)
- **Unwanted clothing item** for paper pulp
- **Towel** (to sit on outside)
- Bottle of **hand lotion**
- Two pairs of **reusable** rubber or latex **gloves** (for printmaking)
- N95 face mask (for pigment mixing and airbrush)

Art Tools

- **Hard-copy photos** (including a side view/profile photo of yourself) 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 (bulldog clips)** for holding paper on your drawing board
- **Exacto knife** (#11 or other)
- 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 always have to take notes and sketch. *And, as a reminder—this is also what you're using to research your five 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!)
- **One glue stick**
- **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
- **Collage materials** for printmaking
- **Ballpoint pen** for printmaking
- **Empty containers** (yogurt, pasta sauce, etc.) for saving ink
 - **Please do not bring containers that previously held anything related to drugs, alcohol or tobacco. These items will not be allowed at GSA (even if empty).**
- **Empty dry goods box** (cereal bar box, pasta box, etc.) for collagraph printmaking

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 from 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 through all three weeks.

PRINTMAKING PREPARATION

Instructor – **Hannah Smith**

At GSA, you will be introduced to a range of printmaking processes, like traditional relief and screen printing techniques, processes assisted by modern technology, and those which blur the boundaries between sculpture, printmaking, and painting. **Students will leave GSA with an understanding of the expanded field of printmaking and its applications in contemporary artistic practices. This course also emphasizes environmentally friendly art-making practices, so the importance of recycling and repurposing materials is central to all printmaking projects at GSA.**

How To Prepare For Your Projects (Before GSA) – It is important that you come with **images and ideas** that you can easily transfer and copy onto the film “positives” and “negatives” we will be creating. I recommend you bring photocopies (Xerox) of high-contrast drawings, photographs, magazines, comic books, etc. that you would like to play with. **Preferably, the images should 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 (lacking contrast) images do not translate very well. **Collage will likely be part of our design process;** I recommend visiting **Half Price Books** and/or **thrift stores** for inexpensive book/magazine collage material. **You will also need to bring at least one article of unwanted clothing to be printed on.** For our screen-printing project, you will need to collect a few **(at least 5) containers** and a **few dry goods boxes**.

Materials We’ll Use

- **Empty containers** (yogurt, pasta sauce, etc.)
 - **Please do not bring containers that previously held anything related to drugs, alcohol or tobacco. These items will not be allowed at GSA (even if empty).**
- **Empty dry goods box** (cereal bar box, pasta box, etc.) for collagraph printmaking
- **At least one article of unwanted clothing** (*you can bring more than one, if you like*)
- **One ballpoint pen**
- **Photocopies** of high-contrast drawings, photos, etc.
- **Collage materials** (magazines, comic books, etc.)

Printmaking Artist List	
Felix Vallotton	Althea Murphy Price
Aubrey Beardsley	Swoon
Robert Beatty	Wangechi Mutu
M. Fatchurofi	Favianna Rodriguez
David Wischer	Nicola Lopez
Breanne Trammel	Ryan McGinness
	Patrick Turk

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE PREPARATION

Instructors – Azucena Trejo Williams & 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 artforms.

“DISCREET OBJECT” Project Prep – Please bring at least 5 items of importance, preferably no larger than the size of your hand. We want these objects to mean something to you. Be open and think about its presence, shape, and form. One of these objects should artistically describe you. *Is it something you carry in your pocket, maybe for good luck? A small river stone from a hike that sits on your bookshelf? Your grandma's thimble?*

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?

Ceramics & Sculpture Artist List	Olafur Eliasson
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	

DRAWING & PAINTING PREPARATION

Instructor – Nathaniel Hendrickson

In the Drawing and Painting Studio, we will work from a variety of sources, including **direct observation**, **imagination**, and **print material**.

PROJECT #1 – CHARACTER SELF PORTRAIT

CONCEPT– Inspired by **Jordan Casteel, Alice Neel, Van Gogh, Frida Khalo and Carrie Anne Baade**, students will combine figure painting with visual elements that personify their character (real, emotional and/or imagined). You will use a combination of traditional oil paint and egg tempera in this project.

How To Prepare For This Project (Before GSA) – Please bring in items of personal significance that inspire you. If you are unable to bring these items to GSA (for inconvenience reasons), **detailed photos of these items are permitted/encouraged.**

- **Examples** – Family photos, photocopies of library resources, magazines, images of favorite paintings, jewelry, glasses, iconography, photos of favorite animals, house plants, special mementos, etc.

PROJECT #2 – INDEPENDENT STUDY

CONCEPT– Plan and execute a project that you’ve always wanted to try that deals with **something unavoidable in contemporary society or recent history** (think from the microcosmic to the macrocosmic scale). Using your preferred medium of choice (and another medium that you would like to learn/master), create a mixed media piece that incorporates direct observation, imagination, collage (or decollage) and photographic sources. Consider **collage** or **décollage** as a possible technique. Also consider expanding the work out of the frame and off the wall as a series of cut-outs and/or related fragments.

How To Prepare For This Project (Before GSA) – Visit moma.org, metmuseum.org, and art21.org to browse their vast art collections! Choose at least 5 artists whose work that you find interest in and write them down in your sketchbook. Do a little research on their background and their art. This will help inspire you while you work in the studio at GSA! We will not only work on numerous projects, but we will also discuss artists both historical and contemporary as part of your visual arts practice.

Drawing & Painting Artist List	Mark Bradford
Kerry James Marshall	Zhang Xiaogang
Liu Xiaodong	Gerhard Richter
Jordan Casteel	Jenny Saville
Wangechi Mutu	Peter Doig
Andrew Wyeth	Lucian Freud
Francis Bacon	Luc Tuymman
David Hockney	Richard Diebenkorn
Marlene Dumas	Louis Bourgeois
Odilon Redon	Neo Rausch
Cecily Brown	Chaim Soutine
Njideka Akunyili Crosby	Liu Wei
Fritz Scholder	Mary Casteel