Fine Arts Career Resources

Virginia’s fine arts programs allow students to learn about and experience careers in fine arts. This document was created to offer support for teachers incorporating career planning and preparation in the classroom. Parents and students can also use this document to explore creative career opportunities.

## **Examples of Fine Arts Careers**

| Dance Arts | Music | Theatre Arts | Visual Arts |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Artistic Director  Business Management  Carpenter  Choreographer  Costume Designer  Dance Administrator  Dance Educator - K-12  Dance Therapist  Dance Critic  Dancer  Electrician  Lighting Designer  Make-up Artist  Photographer  Physical Therapist  Performing Arts Medicine  Private Dance Educator  Production Designer  Production Manager  Public Relations  Rehearsal Director  Set Designer  Stage Manager  Stagehand  Ticket Sales  Usher  Videographer  Wig/Hairstylist | Accompanist  Arranger  Artist Manager/Agent  Arts Administration  Audio Producer  Audio/Recording Engineer  Broadcast Engineer  Composer  Concert Manager or Promoter  Conductor  Copyright Administration  Disk/Video Jockey  Entertainment Law  Event/Tour Manager  Instrument Design  Instrument Repair  Instrument Restoration  Music Business Manager  Music Director  Music Editor or Publisher  Music Educator, K-12  Music Journalist  Music Librarian  Music Marketing  Music Merchandising  Music Ministry  Music Professor, College  Music Publicist  Music Therapist  Musical Theatre Performer  Musicologist  Orchestra Manager  Performer  Performing Arts Medicine  Piano Tuner/Technician  Private Lesson Instructor  Software/App Developer  Songwriter/Lyricist  Sound Designer or Technician  Stage Manager  Studio/Session Musician  Ticket Sales | Accountant/Bookkeeper  Actor or Performer  Artistic Director  Box Office Manager  Carpenter  Choreographer  Composer or Sound  Costume Designer  Designer  Director  Front of House Staff/Usher  Fundraiser  General Manager/ Admin  Lighting Designer  Lighting Tech/Operator  Make-Up Artist  Marketing Director  Musical Director  Playwright or Writer  Private theatre educator  Producer  Production Manager  Props  Publicist  Scenic Artist/Painter  Set Designer  Sound Technician  Stage Manager  Technical Director  Theatre Educator - K-12  Wardrobe Team | Architect  Archivist  Art Consultant  Art Editor  Art Educator - K12  Art Educator - Museum  Art Gallery Director  Art Therapist  Artist  Cartoonist  Cinematographer  Courtroom Sketch Artist  Critic  Curator  Engraver  Exhibit Designer  Fashion Designer  Furniture Designer  Gallery Director  Graphic Designer  Historian  Illustrator  Interior Decorator  Jewelry Designer  Journalist  Landscape Designer  Medical Illustrator  Multimedia Consultant  Museum Director  Non-profit Administrator  Painter  Performer  Photographer  Product Designer  Sculptor  Set Designer  Special Effects Consultant |

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### Fine Arts Career Resources

* [**A Career Guide for Music Majors**](https://finearts.utexas.edu/sites/files/cofa/music_career_guide_july_2015.pdf) - A listing of career opportunities and skills needed from The University of Texas at Austin.
* [**Arts and Entertainment Career Resources -**](https://career.berkeley.edu/Arts/Arts)Comprehensive career resources and descriptions from the University of California at Berkeley.
* [**Arts and Economic Prosperity -**](https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/reports-and-data/research-studies-publications/arts-economic-prosperity-5) Explore the economic impact of arts and cultural organizations and their audiences.
* [**Berklee Career Communities**](https://www.berklee.edu/careers) - Resource for career opportunities and career roles in performing arts.
* [**Careers in Music**](https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2014/05/Careers-in-Music.pdf) - The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) guide to career opportunities.
* [**Creative Industries -**](https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/reports-and-data/research-studies-publications/creative-industries) Americans for the Arts has put together resources and data related to creative industries and careers.
* [**Dance Employment and Job Outlook** -](https://www.ndeo.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=893257&module_id=56457&sl=949100659) This article from the National Dance Education Organization provides career information and statistics for dancers and choreographers.
* [**Music Careers**](https://www.towson.edu/cofac/departments/music/resources/2016_updated_music_careers_subject_guide.pdf) - A comprehensive career listing from Towson University with numerous hyperlinks to professional organizations and connections between music and other fields of study.
* [**The Art Career Project**](https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers/) **-** Explore hundreds of career profiles and learn more about what it takes to build long-term careers within today’s top creative industries, including [dance](https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers/dance/).
* [**Theatre Career Quiz -**](https://www.centertheatregroup.org/programs/students-and-educators/teen-and-college-initiatives/working-in-theatre/theatre-career-quiz) Take the quiz to match interests and skills to potential theatre careers.
* [**Virginia Wizard -**](https://www.vawizard.org/wizard/careersAssess)The Career Interest and Work Values Assessment helps match student interests and skills with career pathways.

### Examples of Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Fine Arts Students

The [Virginia Department of Education Work-Based Learning website](http://doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/work-based_learning/index.shtml) provides valuable resources for incorporating WBL strategies in the instructional program. The [CTE Workbased Learning Guide](http://cteresource.org/verso/titles/career-and-technical-education-work-based-learning-guide-219) provides information on 11 types of work-based learning instruction methods. Below, you will find examples of work-based learning experiences for high school fine arts students.

* **Externship in performing arts** - Students are paired with a professional performer to work “side-by-side”. Examples include acting in community or professional theatre; performing with a community or professional musical ensemble; performing with a community or professional dance company.
* **Fine arts service learning experiences -** Students identify and fulfill a community need related to visual or performing arts.
* **Internship in the music industry** - Students are placed in a professional music studio or performance venue, gaining knowledge of music administration, funding, production, and programming. Examples include working in a recording studio or in the office of a professional orchestra or performing arts center.
* **Internship in Videography or Photography** - Students are placed with Local Education Authority (LEA) within a division communications office to record meetings or assist in the creation of digital media.
* **Internship with a Fine Arts-oriented nonprofit organization** - Students work with leaders in nonprofit administration, management, and leadership.
* **Job shadowing of an arts educator -** Students can select a fine arts teacher at an elementary or middle school that can offer a shadowing experience.
* **Job shadowing of a professional in a creative industry or fine arts business -** Students can shadow a professional in a fine arts career.
* **Mentorship with a fine arts professional** - Students are paired with a professional in a fine arts field to obtain hands-on experience.