



Tips for Preparing for the Converse College Visual Arts Scholarship Portfolio Review

- 1. Be Yourself!** Submit what you feel are your best, most recent pieces. We're looking for experimentation, craftsmanship, draftsmanship, composition, and concept development. We're also looking for evidence of the personal qualities that will help you succeed at Converse College- qualities like creativity, motivation, and enthusiasm- so tell us about yourself!
- 2. Work from Observation.** One of the biggest skills that we look for is observational drawing, painting or sculpting from a still life, figure models, or landscapes - subjects that are right in front of you while you are working.
- 3. Include Personal and Experimental Work.** While your portfolio should reflect technical skills from observation, it should also speak to your personal experiences or your background. Consider including experimental work or pieces that showcase your personal interest in a particular subject or medium. We encourage all mediums including drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, digital media and collage.
- 4. Keep a Sketchbook.** Evidence of work outside of the classroom is paramount for growth and development as a visual artist and we want to see your process! Include evidence of planning, thought processes, experimentation, and drawing from observation. Keep in mind that a sketchbook should grow! So feel free to attach those loose-leaf papers, notes and doodles to your sketchbook.
- 5. Edit Your Portfolio.** A portfolio submitted for scholarship should consist of at 10-15 examples of your best and most recent work. Choose work that you are proud of and be sure that each piece showcases your talent and conveys your ambition.
- 6. Prepare Your Work.** Work should be neatly arranged in any type of container including a box! Sculpture should be carefully packaged to prevent damage, and if too big to bring – photographed from different angles. Register for our Converse College Visual Arts Scholarship Portfolio Review online, completing all requirements in time for the event. Questions – contact our Admissions office.
- 7. Practice Talking About Your Work.** Preparation for your portfolio is important, so arrange for a mock interview with a teacher or another authority figure. Get comfortable talking about your work. Tell us about your process, the meaning, and what you like about it. Don't be afraid to also show us or talk about what you consider to be “failures” because this will give us something to compare to and open up a dialogue about your process.
- 8. Reach Out.** It can help tremendously to get the opinions of your high school art teacher. You can also reach out to Converse College Admission representatives and the Department of Art and Design faculty. Visiting our campus and meet our faculty and students. Our Visual Arts Scholarship events are when you will have your portfolio reviewed by faculty for scholarship consideration.

Information

Converse College Admissions <https://www.converse.edu/admissions/undergraduate/>

Department of Art and Design <https://www.converse.edu/academics/art-design/>

Visual Arts Scholarship Events & Application <https://www.converse.edu/event/performing-and-visual-arts-scholarship-day-2/>