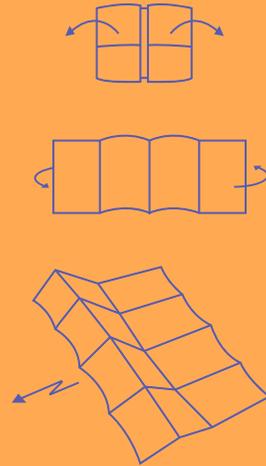


*We are Los Angeles*



HOLLYWOOD

OTIS COLLEGE OF  
ART AND DESIGN



UNFOLD ME TO REVEAL A POSTER!

## Contents

The Otis College Manifesto	1
From Otis to Coachella	4
Studying in a Creative Capital	10
Seeing the World Through Design	14
The Spirit of Mentorship	18
Career Success	21
The Core Experience	22
Creative Action	23
Majors and Minors	24
The Creative Economy	26
A “Day Out” in L.A.	28
A Community of Toy Designers	34
A Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	39
A Class with a Global Perspective	40
Our Campus	42
Engage Virtually	44
Poster Artist Profile	48

## How to Apply

Admissions Deadlines	45
Application Requirements	45
Transfer Credits	46
Financial Aid	46
Tuition and Fees	47
Housing and Board	47

**We are the Originals,  
Adventurers, and Creators.  
We don’t sit by and watch.  
We look at the world  
and look again.  
We get inspiration  
from everywhere.  
We need to make  
— and try everything.  
We work hard and  
work is our play.  
We experiment,  
we fail, and we grow.  
We use all the tools.  
The City is our soul  
— Los Angeles —  
where dreams  
meet discipline.  
We welcome,  
support, and include.  
Diversity defines us.  
Join us.**

# WE ARE THE ORIGINALS, ADVENTURERS, AND CREATORS.

At Otis College, you'll learn the tools to create. You'll learn your discipline's professional standards, develop your portfolio, and have the opportunity to learn practical business skills like finance and accounting. You'll have opportunities for real-world experience through internships, travel study, and our signature Creative Action program. Along the way, we'll support you with a dedicated Academic Mentor, guidance on resume and interview skills, and an online job board just for Otis College students and alumni. If you're hoping to be your own boss, you can explore start-ups, small businesses, and solopreneurship through an Entrepreneurial Studies Minor.



*Through the Creative Action program at Otis College, students work together to solve real-world problems in project-based courses with a multidisciplinary team of classmates.*



Sofia Enriquez Photos by Lance Gerber





## From Otis to Coachella Sofia Enriquez '14

The studio where Sofia Enriquez ('14 BFA Communication Arts, Illustration) creates in Cathedral City, California, is filled with art books, there are paint buckets everywhere, wearable pieces of art drape from hangers, and tarp and tape cover the floor. In fact, it's exactly the way her studio space at Otis College was set up, her first dedicated place for making work. "Otis taught me how I work individually, how I function, what resources I need, how to ask for stuff," she says.

**"Now I can comfortably say I'm an artist."**

It's also where she learned the business side of art—the importance of having a resume, a website, business cards, and a brand. "All of that was very foreign to me but now it's making sense because that's how I'm surviving," Enriquez says. "I'm basically running a business."

That business involves painting murals all over the world—from Paris to Tokyo to Otis College's own Ahmanson Hall—making gallery work, designing and painting clothing, and even creating large-scale installations like the one she did at the 2019 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, which was attended by more than 250,000 people. "Now I can comfortably say I'm an artist," she says.



*Enriquez (shown above at the 2019 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival), received one of the most coveted commissions an artist or designer can receive, to create an interactive art installation for Festival attendees to experience.*

## WE DON'T SIT BY AND WATCH.

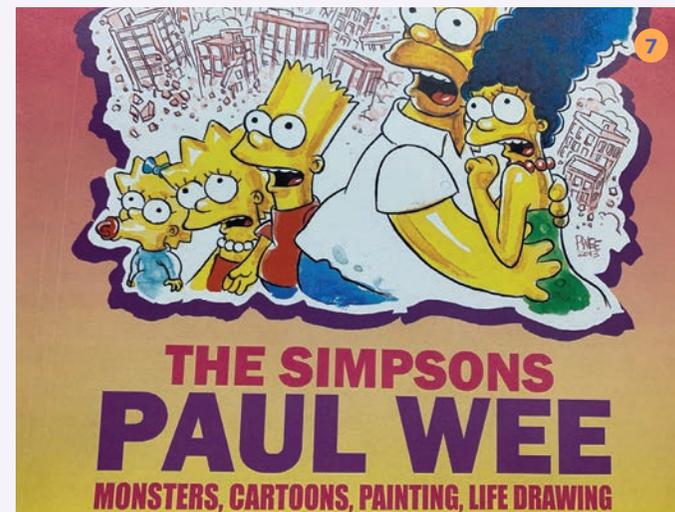
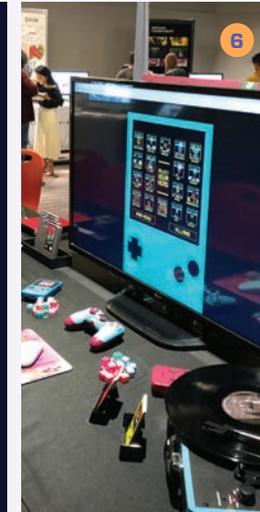
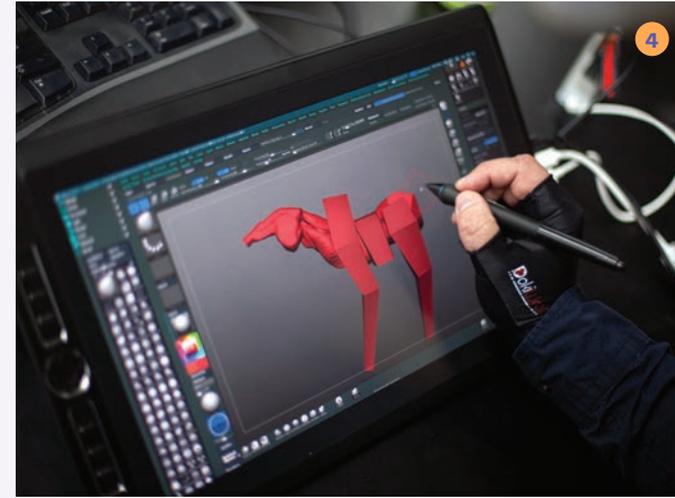
At Otis College, you'll become part of a warm, tight-knit community that supports your creative endeavors. You'll be challenged to learn and grow while making life-long friends.

With 24-hour access to many studios and other facilities, you'll likely spend more than a few late nights working alongside your classmates. We'll make sure you have plenty of help—and fun, too. We offer on-campus housing in our Residence Hall, as well as off-campus housing options. You can take part in campus events like our Halloween Extravaganza, movie screenings, and open-mic nights. You also might join a club, organization, or professional society, represent your classmates through the Students' Union, or serve as a mentor to a younger student.



# WE LOOK AT THE WORLD AND LOOK AGAIN.

Our faculty members—more than 430 full- and part-time instructors—are practicing professionals in their fields. You'll learn from award-winning artists, animators, web designers, architects, illustrators, filmmakers, graphic designers, fashion designers, community artists, toy designers, writers, and poets. They're a diverse group of makers and thinkers who are also passionate educators dedicated to your creative growth and success. They're deeply connected to their respective creative industries and are invaluable resources as you launch your career. Throughout your Otis College experience, you'll also have ample opportunities to connect with visiting artists, lecturers, and industry leaders.



1. Posters promoting the Otis Digital Media Speaker Series, which brings a range of professionals from the L.A. animation, motion design, and game and entertainment industries to our campus.

2. Work created by student Lynn Kwon ('19 BFA Digital Media, Motion Design). See more at [lynnkwon.com](http://lynnkwon.com).

3. Student work created by Kaho Horiuchi ('19 BFA Digital Media, Game and Entertainment Design). See more at [kahohori.com](http://kahohori.com).

4. Located throughout campus, labs give Otis students access to the latest technology.

5. Internships are an important part of the Otis College experience. Each semester, students are given the opportunity for on-campus work study and paid internships. The Communications and Marketing Department commissioned this motion graphic, by student intern Khang Nguyen ('21 BFA Communication Arts), which was shared on Otis social media channels. Read more about Nguyen on page 48.

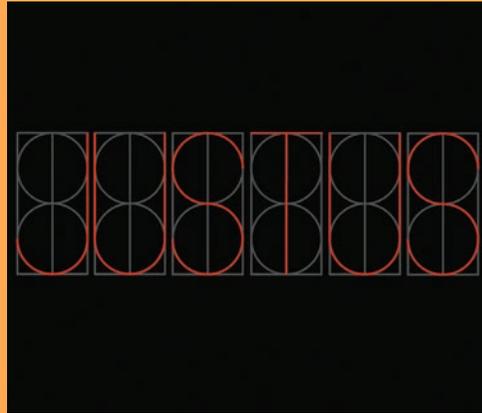
6. Student work, such as this digital media project, is shown to prospective employers and the general public at Annual Exhibition, which is held each May.

7. Paul Wee, ('87 BFA Communication Arts) came back to campus to speak with students after he won an Emmy for Outstanding Individual Achievement in Animation for "Treehouse of Terror XXIII," *The Simpsons*.

## Studying in a Creative Capital Justus Morschauser '20

Justus Morschauser's mom has a story she likes to tell: When he was barely three years old he said, "Mom, I know what I want to be. It starts with an R—an artist." The Midwest native, who majored in Digital Media with an area of emphasis in Animation, chose Otis in part for its prime location: "We're in Disney's and Nickelodeon's backyard," he says.

Being where the jobs are means getting to visit local companies, which Morschauser did during his sophomore year, but you don't have to leave campus for access to top industry creatives.



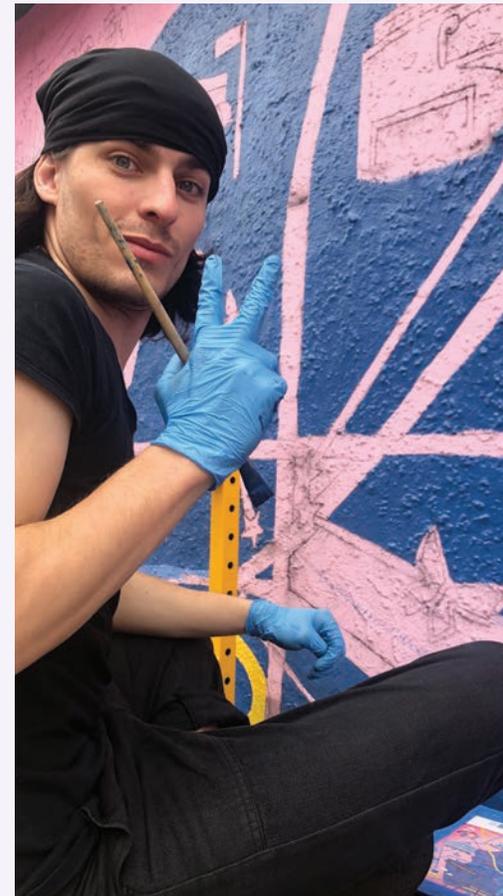
## "We're in Disney's and Nickelodeon's backyard."

The Digital Media Speaker Series brings people like Michelle Dougherty, the creative director of Imaginary Forces (who won an Emmy for her *Stranger Things* title design), and production designer and visual development artist Michael Kurinsky (who treated students to a sneak peek of the movie he was working on, *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*) right to campus. "A professor can take you so far with the basics, and it's really cool to see how other professionals are doing it," Morschauser says.



Opposite page, top: Morschauser creates a motion glyph kit using shapes and letters that come together to reveal his name.

Bottom: Morschauser uses motion to bring "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" from Aesop's Illustrated Fables to life.



## WE GET INSPIRATION FROM EVERYWHERE.

At Otis College, we understand the power of personal and artistic growth through travel. As an Otis College student, you'll have the chance to take part in a number of for-credit travel-study experiences. The courses are led by faculty who specialize in the history and culture of each travel destination. As a complement to your first-year Foundation experience, you can join a nine-day immersive elective set in Paris. Other opportunities for travel-study include courses in Barcelona, Rome, Tokyo, Israel, Cuba, and Malawi, among others.





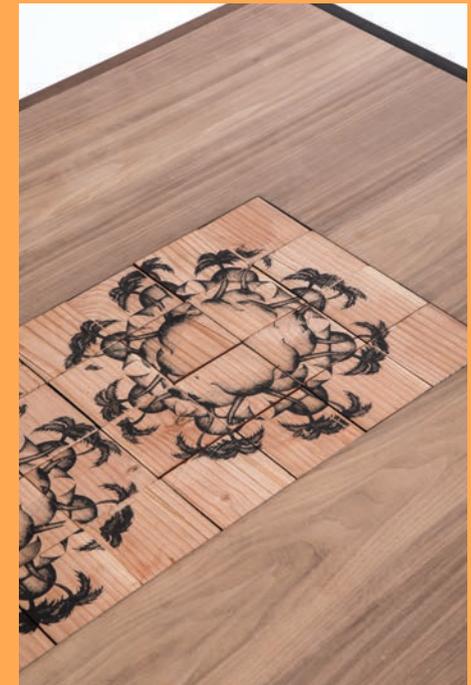
## Seeing the World Through Design Amanda DaSilva '19

"I'm such a traveler," says Amanda DaSilva ('19 BFA Product Design), which is one of the reasons the Rhode Islander joined the Marine Corps after high school. After more than three years of service, DaSilva enrolled at Otis on the GI Bill where a Foundation class called Drawing and Building Form changed everything. "I didn't even know product design was a thing but now I love when people ask me, 'What's product design?' I'm like, 'It's that chair you're sitting in, that cup you're drinking out of, that magazine you read yesterday,'" she says. "Everything is a product."

**"I view the world from a different perspective."**

Such products include the affordable, therapeutic chair DaSilva is planning to design for children with cerebral palsy, inspired by her trip to Blantyre, Malawi, as part of the Creative Action program at Otis. The semester-long course included a two-week stay at the Jacaranda School for Orphans, where Otis College students taught workshops and spearheaded projects on site.

Though the experience was life changing, DaSilva doesn't necessarily need a destination to be inspired. "I'll be walking through an airport and I'm like, 'Why would they set this up this way?' This is a design opportunity in and of itself," she says. "I view the world from a different perspective."



*DaSilva aims to create products that provide an experience, and her dining table design is no exception. A cutout in the center of the table contains changeable wooden cubes, each side with a different finish such as chalkboard paint, allowing for a new and unique centerpiece or interaction.*



Photo by Owen Kolasinski



## WE NEED TO MAKE— AND TRY EVERYTHING.

As an Otis College student, you'll present your work in a variety of ways. The Bolsky Gallery offers a professional setting for Fine Arts seniors to explore curatorial practice and organize group exhibitions. MFA students in Fine Arts showcase their work at an annual Graduate Open Studios event and mount a thesis exhibition. Junior and senior Fashion students' designs are showcased in the Annual Scholarship Benefit and Fashion Show. All graduating students take part in our Annual Exhibition, which includes an exclusive preview for industry recruiters and alumni. Students' digital portfolios are also featured on the College website.

*Every year, Otis College hosts a Scholarship Benefit and Fashion Show, showcasing garments created by juniors and seniors in the Fashion Design program under the guidance of leading industry mentors.*

# The Spirit of Mentorship

The spirit of mentorship and connection is exemplified at Otis College's annual Scholarship Benefit and Fashion Show, where the exceptional student-designed looks shown on the runway are the tangible result of our school's entrepreneurial culture.

Juniors and seniors in Fashion Design are mentored by some of the top names in the fashion, costume, and styling industries, drawing inspiration from their mentor's iconic styles, while tailoring their original designs to the show's overarching theme.

For more than 30 years, Otis has welcomed design mentors ranging from Jason Wu and Bao Tranchi, to costume designers Ruth Carter and Eduardo Castro, and legendary labels like Adidas, Vince, and Ralph Lauren.



1. Student Yiting Jiang during a sketch selection with Otis College alumnus and mentor Bao Tranchi ('99 BFA Fashion Design).

2. Sketch selection with celebrity stylist and design mentor B. Åkerlund and student Jonathan Levite.

3. Fitting with B. Åkerlund and students Nicole Yu and Yujia Chai.

4. Mentor Jason Wu and student Amanda Huang making final adjustments during a fitting.

5. Students Shirley and Youngsun Park present their laser cut garment during a fitting with mentor Eduardo Castro.

6. Student Soomin Chun's designs for B. Åkerlund's mentor project.

7. A student fitting with mentor and Oscar-winning costume designer, Ruth Carter, for a senior project based on African tribes.

# WE WORK HARD AND WORK IS OUR PLAY.

Every student at Otis is encouraged to complete an internship and we're committed to helping find the right fit for them. Our Career Services counselors will help you develop your resume, portfolio, and other promotional materials; cultivate a network; and advance your interviewing skills.

We host an annual Intern Recruitment Day for employers to connect with students seeking paid summer internships. Every year, representatives from more than 100 companies attend the event, including Adidas, Google, FOX, and Sony Music. Career Services also organizes employer visits throughout the academic year with companies such as DreamWorks, Nike, Cartoon Network, Mattel, and Under Armour.



## CAREER SUCCESS AT OTIS COLLEGE

EMPLOYMENT RATE, CLASS OF 2019

# 93.5%

of recent graduates are employed or going to graduate school within one year of graduation

JOBS RELATED TO ART AND DESIGN

# 94%

of recent graduates who reported obtaining a job are working within the field of art or design

JOB ACQUISITION

# 94%

of recent graduates who reported having obtained a job did so within six months of graduation

TIME FRAME OF JOB ACQUISITION

**38%** Before graduation

**35%** Within 3 months post-graduation

**21%** 4-6 post-graduation

**3%** Over 6 months post-graduation

PREPARED FOR THE WORKING WORLD

# 89%

indicated Otis College prepared them well for the professional world

*Career Success Indicators are a result of a combination of respondents who completed the 2019 alumni career success survey and secondary sources of data collection, which resulted in a knowledge rate of 73%.*

RECENT EMPLOYERS

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Anthropologie    | Mattel            |
| Apple            | MGA Entertainment |
| Aurora World     | Moose Toys        |
| Banana Republic  | NBC Universal     |
| BCBG             | Netflix           |
| Blizzard         | NFL               |
| Cartoon Network  | Nickelodeon       |
| Coach/Kate Spade | Nike              |
| DC Comics        | Pacific Sunwear   |
| Disney Pixar     | Ralph Lauren      |
| DreamWorks       | Riot Games        |
| The Getty Center | Snap Inc.         |
| Guess            | Spinmaster        |
| FOX              | Tesla             |
| Funko            | Urban Outfitters  |
| Hasbro           | Vans              |
| LACMA            | Vince             |
| Lionsgate        | Walt Disney       |
| Marvel           | Wicked Cool Toys  |

AVERAGE REPORTED STARTING ANNUAL SALARY

# \$49,800

# WE EXPERIMENT, WE FAIL, AND WE GROW. WE USE ALL THE TOOLS.

If you can dream it, we can help you build it. The labs and shops at Otis College offer the tools, equipment, and training you'll need to realize your ideas. You can learn metal welding, woodworking, laser cutting, and 3D printing. We also have letterpress, silkscreening, ceramics, lighting studios, and photo labs. The Millard Sheets Library, housed on the first floor of our Residence Hall, includes a collection of 45,000 books and exhibition catalogs. We offer an additional 110,000 e-books, more than 5,000 videos, and a special collection of 3,000 artists' books. The library subscribes to 150 periodicals and students can access a number of online databases to find additional books, journals, and images. We also maintain a collection of unusual, innovative materials—including samples of woods, plastics, metals, fabrics, and more.

## THE CORE EXPERIENCE

### FOUNDATION YEAR

In your first year as an Otis College student, you'll participate in our one-of-a-kind, immersive Foundation program. What you learn will serve you for a lifetime. Our freshmen students take a sequence of studio courses structured to teach the fundamentals across all art and design. You'll become a well-informed maker, experiencing new ways of thinking and looking at the world. You'll learn to ask new questions and develop your own creative practice. Foundation aims to enhance your creativity, refine your voice, and help you transform your ideas into final form. The studio courses in Foundation, the faculty, and major-focused events help you make the best choice for your future major and career beyond Otis College.

### LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Our strong Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) curriculum supports and expands your art and design training at Otis College. We build your LAS experience around five themes: creativity, diversity, identity, sustainability, and social responsibility. Through courses that emphasize critical thinking in writing, visual literacy, the sciences, and art history, you'll cultivate an understanding of context and culture. Our program encourages you to develop a persistent self-reflective stance, a willingness to rethink traditional categories, and an opportunity to explore newly evolving realities. You'll learn to question the obvious and to reaffirm enduring values. You'll be able to articulate your own ideas and critically evaluate other ideas. We aim to help you appreciate what shaped the world you inherit and understand the cultural context of today so you can better shape the future.



### CREATIVE ACTION

Creative Action is an integrated learning program that introduces students to compelling social and environmental issues, within their community and abroad, through a series of core courses. In each project-based course, students engage in research, leadership, and collaboration with a multidisciplinary team of classmates. There are opportunities for travel-study to places like Blantyre, Malawi, to work with the staff, faculty, and students of the Jacaranda School for Orphans, which provides free food, education, and medicine to children who have been orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Other courses involve local communities. In a recent project with the Exceptional Children's Foundation in Inglewood, students collaborated with developmentally disabled adults in the creation of an exhibition at the DAC Gallery in downtown Los Angeles.



## BFA MAJORS

Starting sophomore year, you will select your major and begin to pursue your exploration of a specific art and design field. You will advance your work and professional preparation through a careful sequence of courses and educational experiences. All majors are enriched by travel study, internships, and through an extensive offering of minors that offer a complete and multidisciplinary academic experience.

## MAJORS AND AREAS OF EMPHASIS

Architecture/Landscape/Interiors

Communication Arts

Graphic Design  
Illustration

Digital Media

Animation  
Game & Entertainment Design  
Motion Design

Fashion Design

Costume Design

Fine Arts

Painting  
Photography  
Sculpture / New Genres

Product Design

Toy Design

## MINORS

Advertising Design

Art History

Book Arts

Community Arts

Engagement

Contemporary Clay

Creative Writing

Digital Media

Entrepreneurship

Graphic Design

Illustration

Interior Design

Landscape Design

Painting

Photography

Printmaking

Product Design

Sculpture / New  
Genres

Sustainability

Teacher Credential  
Preparation

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

As a graduate student at Otis College, you'll develop your craft in a rigorous, supportive environment that provides a strong intellectual foundation for your future as a professional artist or designer.

## MAJORS AND AREAS OF EMPHASIS

Fine Arts

Art + Social Practice

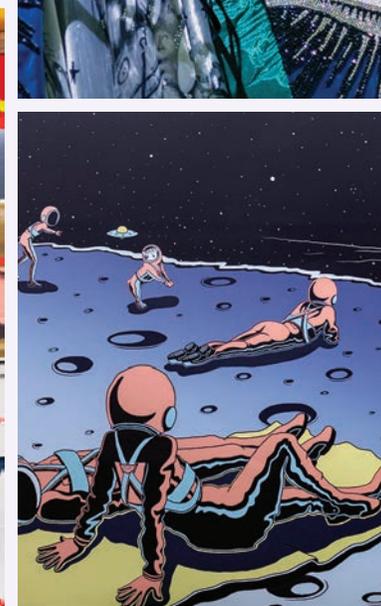
Graphic Design

## MFA FINE ARTS

The MFA Fine Arts program encourages individual thought and a critical approach to one's own practice and the discourses of our time. Graduate students develop in their own practices and at their own pace. As part of the MFA Fine Arts program, Otis offers an area of emphasis in Art + Social Practice for students interested in individual art production and in working within various community and public contexts.

## MFA GRAPHIC DESIGN

The MFA Graphic Design program is a student and faculty research collective of designers investigating contemporary issues. We blend design exploration, critical inquiry, and applied projects to interrogate and better our world. We partner with organizations to foster a deep impact beyond the classroom. During the course of studies, students learn to work across media and platforms through a series of studio projects, visiting workshops, round table discussions, and courses in design theory and history.





# THE CITY IS OUR SOUL— LOS ANGELES— WHERE DREAMS MEET DISCIPLINE.

Los Angeles is the heart of the creative economy in California and one of the great creative capitals of the world. Otis College, founded in 1918, was the first school in L.A. dedicated to art. Our residential main campus, located in the Westchester neighborhood on the city's Westside, is just minutes from the airport and the beach. Graduate Fine Arts studios are in nearby Culver City. As an Otis College student, you can explore all that the L.A. region has to offer: world-class museums and galleries, historical sites and innovative architecture, natural wonders, and diverse neighborhoods.

It's also an ideal place to launch a career. The creative economy generated 797,075 jobs last year in the L.A. region alone, according to a study commissioned by Otis College. One in seven workers in the area are employed in a creative field—the largest concentration of creative industries workers in the nation.



## PREPARING STUDENTS TO JOIN THE CREATIVE ECONOMY



ARCHITECTURE AND RELATED SERVICES



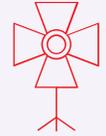
CREATIVE GOODS AND PRODUCTS



ENTERTAINMENT AND DIGITAL MEDIA



FASHION



FINE ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS

2018 TOTAL CREATIVE ECONOMY OUTPUT IN LOS ANGELES REGION

**\$203.2 BILLION**

2018 WAGES EARNED IN LOS ANGELES REGION (direct, indirect, induced)

**\$67 BILLION** IN TOTAL LABOR INCOME

CREATIVE INDUSTRY WORKERS IN L.A. REGION (2018)



1 in 7 total creative industries workers as a share of all private wage and salary workers

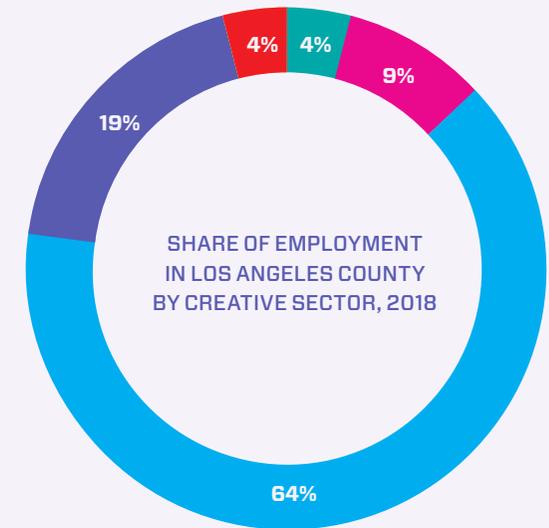
2018 CREATIVE INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT IN L.A. REGION (direct, indirect, induced)

**797,075 JOBS**

In 2018, Entertainment and Digital Media accounted for the largest share of L.A. County's employment in the creative sector, responsible for roughly 2 out of every 3 jobs in the creative industry.

The Fashion industry accounted for the second largest share of jobs in the county's creative industries, making up nearly 1 in 5 of the county's total creative employment.

- ARCHITECTURE & RELATED SERVICES
- CREATIVE GOODS AND PRODUCTS
- ENTERTAINMENT AND DIGITAL MEDIA
- FASHION
- FINE ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS



[otis.edu/creative-economy](https://otis.edu/creative-economy)



## A “Day Out” in Los Angeles

“Seeing art in context is a huge part of our education, and we’re able to do it because L.A. is our classroom,” says Fine Arts Department Chair Meg Cranston. And quite the classroom it is, considering the sheer number and renown of the city’s many museums and galleries. The Broad, MOCA, LACMA, the California African American Museum, and the Getty are just a few of the institutions that have been toured by fine art students on what the department calls a “Day Out.”

Often a faculty member or a curator leads a tour of an exhibition, and sometimes the artists themselves are there to answer questions. “Our students are makers, so when they go to see a work of art in context they can actually put their nose right to it and investigate,” Cranston says.

Connecting students with artists in the field is another crucial component of our curriculum, fostered by our Mandy & Cliff Einstein Visiting Artist Series, with lectures open to the public and often held at notable L.A. locations, such as Kara Walker presenting at the California African American Museum, or Elgreen & Dragset, the duo behind Prada Marfa, presenting at the historic downtown Ace Hotel.

Shirin Neshat, Jeffrey Vallance, curator Zoé Whitley, and multi-disciplinary artist Edgar Heap of Birds are other recent Einstein speakers, exemplary of the series’s simple criteria: “Who are the people who are really influencing the field, who have a significant record in the field?” says Cranston. “And also, who do we believe would be most impactful for our students?”

**“Our students are makers, so when they go to see a work of art in context they can actually put their nose right to it and investigate.”**



1



5



2



3



6



4



7

1. Los Angeles is an arts and culture destination unlike any other. The art collection at the Broad Museum is one of its finest and most accessible examples, offering free entry with reservations.

2. Students regularly visit L.A. museums and galleries in connection with their studies.

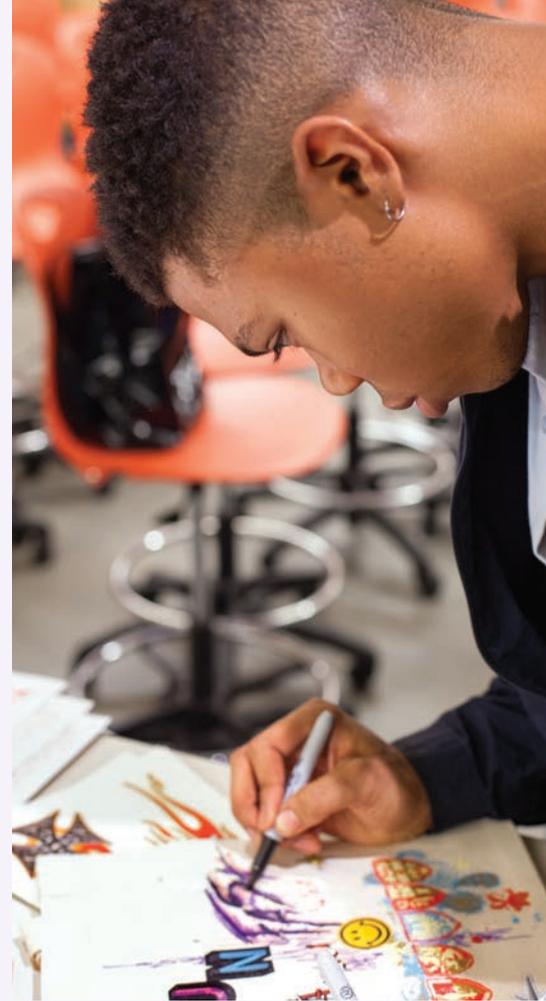
3. Student work, such as the poster shown here, is often inspired by the city.

4. Through exhibitions and curated programming, the Ben Maltz Gallery, located on the campus and open to the public, showcases established and emerging artists.

5. Otis's fine art students and faculty visiting MOCA. Experiencing art in context is an important part of the College curriculum.

6. Grand Central Market celebrates the cuisines and cultures of L.A.'s diverse populations, making it the perfect stop when taking in the downtown art scene.

7. Kara Walker (right) was one of the guest speakers in the Mandy & Cliff Einstein Visiting Artist Series, which brings world-renowned artists to campus, giving students such as Lanise Howard ('20 BFA Fine Arts), pictured left with one of her paintings, a rare opportunity to engage with them.



## **WE WELCOME, SUPPORT, AND INCLUDE.**

We're a small school with a big heart. We foster a community in which you'll have the support you need to grow personally and professionally. You'll learn from faculty who are not only accomplished artists, but also passionate teachers and mentors. You'll learn to collaborate, practice empathy for others, and make lifelong friends. We're committed to your success, your safety, and your well-being. As a student, you'll have access to comprehensive health services, psychological counseling, and wellness support. If you need extra help with classes like English, math, or art history, peer tutors at the Student Learning Center are also available. If you're an international student, we offer a number of additional resources to help you obtain a student visa, find employment and housing, and adjust to life in the U.S. If you choose to live on campus, you'll have the support of trained resident assistants, the opportunity to both live and learn with your peers, and unparalleled proximity to your studios and classrooms.



**“We’ve really cornered the market on employment for our students.”**

## **A Community of Toy Designers**

Otis College offers the only dedicated four-year Toy Design program in existence, which means the department welcomes passionate students from all over the world. And graduates—who finish the program well-versed in everything from conceptual and technical drawing to prototyping and storytelling—go on to work all over the world, in countries like Australia, Japan, Denmark, China, and Germany, for brands including Lego and Moose.

Of course, given the opportunities available, many graduates also stay right here in L.A., home to toy industry juggernauts including MGA Entertainment, Mattel, Hasbro, and Disney, to name just a few. “We’ve got 20-plus years of graduates populating these companies. We’ve really cornered the market on employment for our students,” says Toy Design Chair, Deborah Ryan.

Thanks to the program’s versatility, employment can range from dolls and board games to action figures, plushes, and toy vehicles. And, alumni come weekly to campus for critiques and guest lectures. “It’s a tight-knit community,” Ryan says, something that is especially obvious at Intern Recruitment Day.



*Through prototyping, conceptual drawing, and execution, Otis students are taught how to pitch, present, and sell their concepts for a retail marketplace.*



## DIVERSITY DEFINES US.

Otis College is among the most culturally diverse colleges of art and design in the U.S. Approximately 37 percent of our 1,170 students are from outside California, and about 27 percent are international students, hailing from 34 countries. The Los Angeles region itself is one of the most diverse in the country. As an Otis College student, you'll meet (and learn from) people with different cultural and ethnic backgrounds than your own—and that's one of the most valuable experiences we provide. You'll develop empathy, an expanded worldview, and an open mind, which are essential to your success in any creative field.





## A COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

During President Charles Hirschhorn's first official week, the tragic killing of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis, MN, and the protests against police brutality and systemic racism that followed—nationwide and in Los Angeles—brought on a period of reflection, listening, and learning at Otis, after which the College committed to understanding how systemic racism can affect our community, and doing everything it can to eliminate its impact.

Otis has long committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion, however, the events of the summer put in stark relief how diversity statistics only tell part of the story. According to Spring 2020 enrollment data, the demographic makeup of Otis's undergraduates is: 41 percent Asian; 25 percent White; 17 percent Latinx; 5.6 percent Multiracial; 5 percent Black; 0.6 percent Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; and 0.2 percent American Indian/Alaskan Native. In addition, 27 percent of our student body is international, and 13 percent are first-generation college students.

In early June, President Hirschhorn held virtual, open forums with students, alumni, faculty, and staff, during which those in attendance shared their experiences and asked for more changes and actions that better align with the College's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

On June 12, President Hirschhorn announced the first five initiatives that mark the start of a period of change that will continue to shape the College:

1. Otis College committed to being an antiracist institution, and hired an outside diversity and inclusion consulting and training organization to objectively audit the College on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
2. A diversity, equity, and inclusion executive role has been created as part of Senior Team, reporting directly to President Hirschhorn.

3. Mandatory antiracism training has been instituted for all students, faculty, staff, and trustees.

4. \$1.5 million in aid has been committed toward culturally diverse and underserved students for the 2020-21 school year.

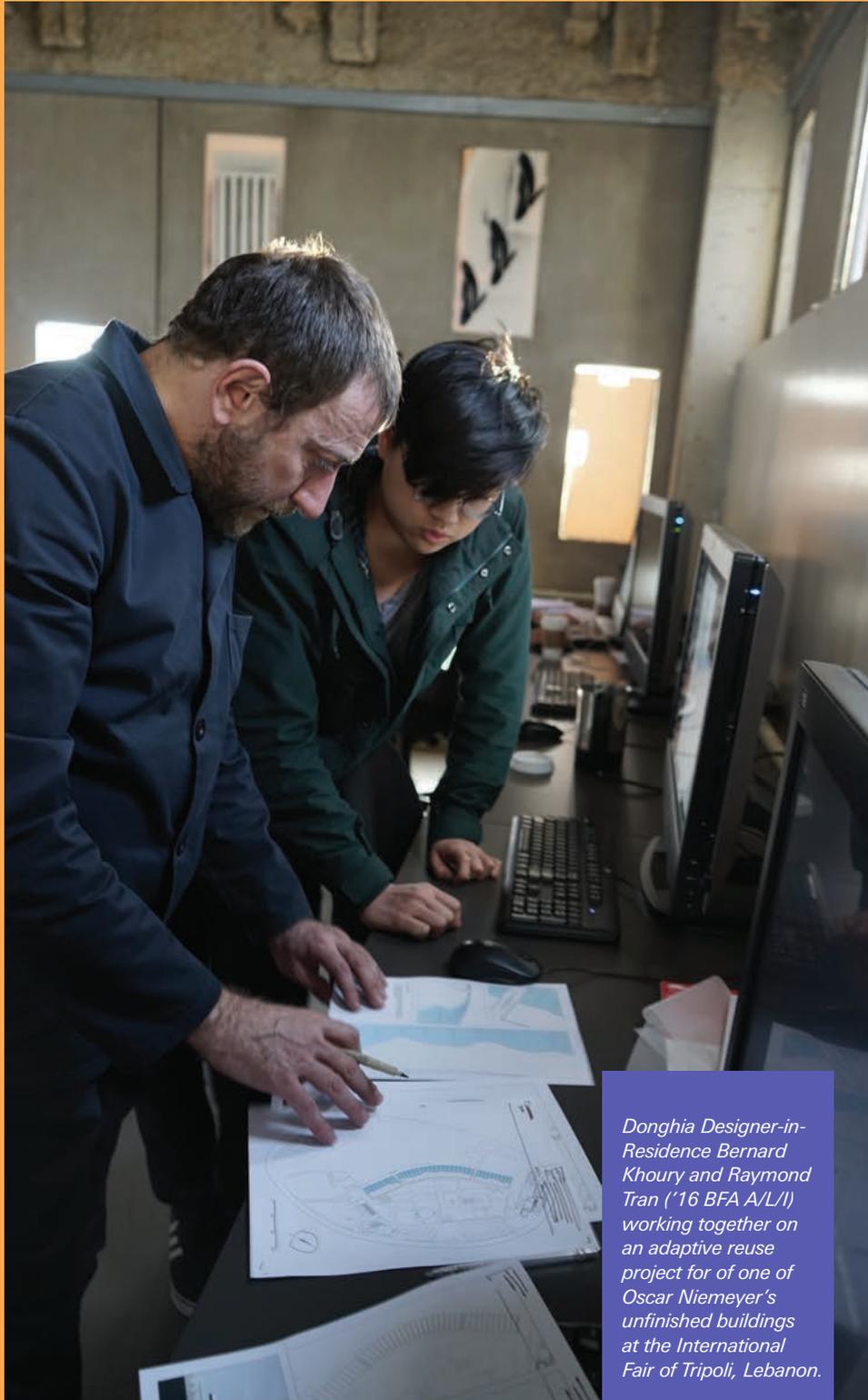
5. An additional eight scholarships were offered to high school students for the 2020 Summer of Art program through partnering with local schools in the communities surrounding Otis.

In support of these efforts, Otis also has launched the Black Creatives Institute, an immersive, pre-orientation program for Black-identified first-year students that is focused on fostering community and an inclusive and affirming campus climate to increase student engagement, first- to second-year retention, and degree completion.

In July, the College also welcomed new Provost Jiseon Lee Isbara, who has been vocal about ensuring that our coursework better reflects our student body, and the world: "I am interested in empowering faculty to promote equitable and inclusive perspectives in the curriculum," she says, "especially ways we can remove barriers imposed by systemic racism, socioeconomic disparities, and cultural marginalization."

These initiatives within President Hirschhorn's first weeks build upon previous efforts regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion, but still represent a new beginning at Otis. Periodic open forums are planned throughout the 2020-21 academic year for the College to provide a space to update the community on how these changes are unfolding on campus.

[otis.edu/diversity](https://otis.edu/diversity)



*Donghia Designer-in-Residence Bernard Khoury and Raymond Tran ('16 BFA A/L/I) working together on an adaptive reuse project for one of Oscar Niemeyer's unfinished buildings at the International Fair of Tripoli, Lebanon.*

## A Class with a Global Perspective

"These three fields create all the environments we occupy," says Linda Pollari, chair of the Architecture/Landscape/Interiors (A/L/I) department, where students are introduced to and practice the skills, techniques, and discourse of all three disciplines in one curriculum. "It makes our students flexible and competitive," Pollari says.

The Donghia Master Class, which Pollari calls "one of the department's richest experiences," is an added bonus. During the week-long immersive elective supported by the Angelo Donghia Foundation, a small group of A/L/I juniors, seniors, and alumni spend 30-plus hours with a designer from outside of the United States, working on a project conceived by and sited in the designer's home country.

Recently, students in Donghia Master Classes explored repurposing a derelict power station in Lagos, Nigeria with Kunlé Adeyemi; rehabilitating three historical buildings on Mumbai's waterfront into public maritime museums with Geeta Mehta; and creating a responsible urban regeneration plan for Xochimilco in Mexico City with Tatiana Bilbao.

"Each Donghia Master Class gives students a virtual cultural experience as if they're designing in that country. They learn about another country's culture and issues from the designer-in-residence who's engaged in those issues," Pollari says.



*Top: Donghia Designer-in-Residence Kunlé Adeyemi with students. Above: Donghia Designer-in-Residence Geeta Mehta with student Josue Lovos ('19 BFA A/L/I).*

**"Donghia Master Class gives students a virtual cultural experience as if they're designing in that country."**

## OUR CAMPUS

Our five-acre main campus is located on Lincoln Blvd. in the Westchester neighborhood of Los Angeles, just a few minutes from LAX airport and 1.5 miles from the beach.

Our campus began with the iconic Ahmanson Hall, a seven-story building built in 1963 as the headquarters of IBM Aerospace, which now houses our administrative offices and several academic departments. This building, designed by renowned modernist architect Eliot Noyes, is known for its distinctive windows, resembling the original IBM computer punch cards. In 2001, we expanded our campus facilities with the Bronya and Andy Galef Center for Fine Arts.

In 2016, we opened the 230-bed Residence Hall and the Anne Cole Building, confirming our commitment to campus life and community.

Recently, through a partnership with neighboring Loyola Marymount University, Otis students are also eligible to take dozens of courses offered at LMU each semester.



## ENGAGE WITH OTIS COLLEGE

We offer many opportunities to connect and engage with our community, virtually and in person. For the 2020-21 academic year, please check online at [otis.edu/connect](https://otis.edu/connect) for opportunities to visit the campus in person. Our virtual forms of engagement are listed below.

**Virtual Counseling Appointment:** Meet with an Otis admissions counselor virtually over video chat. Get advice on your portfolio and learn more about the application process, scholarships and financial aid, and our unique programs.

**Virtual Tour:** Experience our campus from anywhere with our online virtual tour available at [otis.edu/visit](https://otis.edu/visit).

**Live Virtual Tour:** Sign up for a live virtual tour led by an admissions counselor and a student ambassador. This is a great way to learn more about our majors, and hear from a current Otis student! This will include a brief info session on the application process.

**Virtual Portfolio Development and Majors Info Session:** During this one-hour session, an admissions counselor will give you tips to develop a portfolio to apply to art and design school. You'll also see examples of different portfolios and get insight on the application process. We will also review the different majors offered at Otis and how you can begin to make work specific to a major.

**Virtual Transfer Info Session:** Offered once per week and led by an admissions counselor, prospective transfer students can learn more about the transfer process to Otis. The info session will cover how to select courses for transfer, the majors and minors offered at Otis, and how to prepare a transfer application.

**Virtual Portfolio Reviews:** At the Virtual National Portfolio Day events, you can meet an Otis College admissions counselor and get feedback on your portfolio before you apply. Check [nationalportfolioday.org](https://nationalportfolioday.org) for the 2020-21 schedule.

**Chat With Us:** Admissions is available via SMS text message at 323-870-6820. You can also connect with current students on our chat platform at [otis.edu/chat](https://otis.edu/chat).



Engage with us! Take a virtual tour or get feedback on your portfolio with one of our admissions counselors. Contact us to learn more.

**Otis College Admissions**  
Email: [admissions@otis.edu](mailto:admissions@otis.edu)  
Phone: 310.665.6820  
Text: 323.870.6820

[otis.edu/connect](https://otis.edu/connect)

## ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

### UNDERGRADUATE

SEMESTER OF ENTRY	EARLY ACTION DEADLINE	PRIORITY DEADLINE
FALL	DECEMBER 1	FEBRUARY 15
SPRING		NOVEMBER 1

Admission is rolling after the priority deadline.

## UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

### 1. ONLINE APPLICATION

Freshmen applicants should apply through the Common Application. Transfer applicants should apply through the Otis Online Application. Links to applications can be found at [otis.edu/apply](https://otis.edu/apply).

### 2. \$50 NONREFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE

### 3. PORTFOLIO

Your portfolio should include 10–20 examples of your best and most recent work, reflecting your creativity and mastery of technique. Applicants whose work is digital or photo/video based should include five examples of work in other mediums. This also applies to transfer applicants. Artwork can be in any medium that best showcases your abilities. All portfolios should be submitted through SlideRoom.

### 4. TRANSCRIPTS

Official transcripts showing completed coursework to date is required. Transfer students are also required to submit final high school transcripts (with graduation date) and official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.

International applicants are required to submit official translations for all transcripts not in English. International transfer applicants should submit a course-by-course transcript evaluation from World Education Services ([wes.org](https://wes.org)).

### 5. PERSONAL STATEMENT

In at least 500 words, describe your background and interest in studying art and design at Otis College.

### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### Test Scores

ACT and SAT test scores are not required.

#### English Proficiency

An English proficiency score is required for all international students and permanent residents whose primary language is not English.

Minimum requirements for BFA admissions are 79 on the TOEFL, 6.5 on the IELTS, 58 on the Pearson PTE, or 105 on the Duolingo English Test.

This requirement may be waived for students who have graduated from an English-speaking institution. Official transcripts are required to determine eligibility for waiver.

### Summer Language Program and Conditional Admission

Applicants whose English proficiency score does not meet the requirements listed above are still encouraged to apply. Based on your score, you can be considered for admission to our Summer Language Program or offered conditional admission.

[otis.edu/apply](https://otis.edu/apply)

## TRANSFER CREDITS

### SOPHOMORE ENTRY

- 17 semester units of studio art
- 6–12 semester units of general education, such as:
  - English Composition
  - 200–Level English Course
  - Social Science
  - Art History Survey Course

### JUNIOR ENTRY

- 35 semester units of studio art
- 18 semester units of general education, including the courses listed for sophomore-level entry and more, depending on your intended major
- A portfolio that demonstrates strong technical and creative ability in your intended major
- A maximum of 63 units can be accepted

Transfer credits must be earned at an accredited institution with a grade of “C” or better.

### TRANSFER ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

Otis College has articulation agreements with many community colleges to create a pathway for students who wish to transfer. View a list of our current agreements at [otis.edu/transfer](https://otis.edu/transfer).

### TRANSFER CREDIT FROM TEST SCORES

Transfer credit is available for certain scores/subjects for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and A-Level examinations. Credit is typically awarded for Liberal Arts and Sciences courses and not for studio courses. A list of subjects and scores that are accepted for credit is available at [otis.edu/transfer](https://otis.edu/transfer).

[otis.edu/transfer](https://otis.edu/transfer)

## FINANCIAL AID

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR AID

All applicants are considered for a merit scholarship when they apply. U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for additional aid by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Additional information about opportunities to apply for need-based aid can be found at [otis.edu/financial-aid](https://otis.edu/financial-aid).

### WHAT TYPE OF AID MIGHT I BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE AS A U.S. CITIZEN / PERMANENT RESIDENT?

1. Federal Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
2. Cal Grant (for California residents only)
3. Otis College Scholarships
4. Federal Direct Loans and PLUS (Parent) Loans
5. Federal or Institutional Work Study

### HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

#### U.S. Citizens / Permanent Residents:

- Obtain a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) online at [fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm](https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm)
- Complete the FAFSA online at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)
- Enter school code: 001251

#### International Students:

- Complete the CSS Profile at: [cssprofile.collegeboard.org](https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org) (There is a \$25 submission fee)

#### FAFSA

Opens: October 1  
Recommended Deadline: March 2

#### CAL GRANT

Deadline: March 2

#### QUESTIONS?

#### CONTACT FINANCIAL AID

Email: [onestop@otis.edu](mailto:onestop@otis.edu)  
Phone: 310.665.6999  
Web: [otis.edu/financial-aid](https://otis.edu/financial-aid)

## TUITION AND FEES

Tuition and fees for the 2021-22 academic year will be updated on the Otis College website at [otis.edu/tuition-fees](https://otis.edu/tuition-fees).

### 2020-21 UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE TUITION AND FEES

	FALL 2020	SPRING 2021	TOTAL
Tuition	\$23,250	\$23,250	\$46,500**
Health Center Fee	\$200	\$200	\$400
Technology Fee	\$125	\$125	\$250
Student Activities Fee	\$125	\$125	\$250
Health Insurance Fee*	\$950	\$1,330	\$2,280
Total	\$24,650	\$25,030	\$49,680

\*Students are automatically enrolled in the health insurance plan, but can waive the plan and fee by completing the online waiver before the deadline.

\*\*88% of students receive institutional financial aid, and the average tuition, after all scholarships and grants, was \$26,403 for academic year 2019-20.

## HOUSING AND BOARD

### HOUSING

	FALL 2020	SPRING 2021	TOTAL
Shared Suite	\$5,620	\$5,620	\$11,240
Private Room	\$11,240	\$11,240	\$22,480

+\$250 damage deposit

### BOARD

MEAL PLAN COST	FALL 2020	SPRING 2021	TOTAL
10 + \$100 Dining Dollars	\$1,940	\$1,800	\$3,740
14 + \$150 Dining Dollars*	\$2,600	\$2,395	\$4,995
17 + \$150 Dining Dollars	\$2,995	\$2,755	\$5,750

\*Required for all residential students enrolled in the Foundation program.

[otis.edu/tuition-fees](https://otis.edu/tuition-fees)

# Poster Illustrator Khang Nguyen '21

Many at Otis know Khang Nguyen through his face- and body-painting art, which he shares on his Instagram account (@khangphinn), and which he has demonstrated during Halloween and other campus events. For the Communication Arts senior—who transferred to Otis from DeAnza College in Northern California—making the jump from face-painting (his work includes fantastical trompe l’oeils and intricate character studies), to illustrating a poster that would be viewed by thousands of people presented an invaluable opportunity. His first thoughts were of origami, “because the poster is folded in an interesting format, with quite a complicated grid,” he says.

“We love how Khang’s illustration brings forth an element of delight, with the cover being a small vignette of L.A. that unfolds to reveal an entire whimsical landscape,” says Otis Creative Director Sheharazad Fleming, who recruited Nguyen for the project.

Nguyen credits his parents with fostering his creativity from an early age, and acknowledges the influence of his native Vietnam on his work.

**“My culture is a huge and beautiful resource for me to bring to my art.”**

“My culture is a huge and beautiful resource for me to bring to my art,” he says. “People usually only know about the art of Japan or China when talking about Asian art, but they barely know about the artistic beauty of Vietnam.” As for his plans post-Otis, Nguyen wants to incorporate his creative worlds into a business venture: “One of my goals is to establish a design agency with a focus on beauty and avant garde makeup.”



See more at [khangphinn.com](https://www.instagram.com/khangphinn)

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## Creative Direction and Design:

Sheharazad Fleming

## Cover Illustration:

Khang Nguyen, '21 BFA Communication Arts

## Contributors:

Lisa Butterworth  
Matthew Gallagher  
Jeffrey Perkins  
Anna Raya  
Courtney Richter  
Yoi Tanaka  
Rebecca Todd

## Photography:

Fawad Assadullah  
Sheharazad Fleming  
Monica Nouwens  
Darin Rios  
Paul Turang, Courtesy  
of Fred Fisher Partners

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## Statement of Nondiscrimination

Otis College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions), sexual orientation, sexual identity, marital status, family care status, veteran status, disability, medical condition, age, or any other protected category. Otis College seeks full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which respectively prohibit such forms of discrimination.

The following personnel have been designated to respond to inquiries regarding Otis College’s nondiscrimination policies:

Karen Hill, *VP of Human Resources*: 310.846.2597  
Carol D. Branch, Ph.D., *Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator*: 310.846.2554

Correspondence may be addressed to the above personnel at: Otis College of Art and Design  
9045 Lincoln Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045

Telephone: 310.665.6800 or 800.527.OTIS (6847)  
E-mail: [admissions@otis.edu](mailto:admissions@otis.edu) | Website: [www.otis.edu](http://www.otis.edu)

## Accreditation and Affiliations:

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), Association of Independent Schools of Art and Design (AICAD), and Partnership for Academic Leadership on Sustainability (PALS).



ADMISSIONS  
9045 LINCOLN BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90045  
WWW.OTIS.EDU

**Otis College Admissions**  
Email: [admissions@otis.edu](mailto:admissions@otis.edu)  
Phone: 310.665.6820  
[otis.edu/connect](http://otis.edu/connect)