

## *Career:* **Fine Art**

Fine Arts is a complex field because generally it demands that you drive your own career as an artist and often need to build a secondary career to make ends meet financially. Because it may take a number of years to develop a successful career as a fine artist, it is often difficult to create a balance to maintain the energy needed to sustain a dual career. It takes determination and perseverance, with no strictly defined career path. Many people in fine arts choose to work in a related area such as arts administration, teaching or hands-on production work. Others choose to also acquire marketable design skills or skills in unrelated fields that may offer more flexibility and compensation. Artistic and creative talents can be put to work in many ways and Pratt offers the option to its students to take courses in such areas as art education or communications design. A Fine Arts career can result in a very personal and rewarding career path. The role of the artist in society is unique and contemporary culture would not be what it is without them.

### **Some Employers of Pratt Alumni**

Groundswell Community Mural Project DUMBO Arts Center Cue Art Foundation Holy Family University, Fleisher Art Memorial 92nd street Y Belmont High School Box Art Paul Kasmin Gallery DUMBO Arts Center Museum of Jewish Heritage Groundswell Community Mural Project Aperture Foundation Ronald Feldman Fine Arts Bitforms Gallery Sara Meltzer Gallery Noguchi Museum Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation

### **Profiles of Some Graduates**

Miguel worked as a teacher at the elementary level for the NYC Board of Education and the Guggenheim Museum's Reading Through the Arts program while continuing to paint and show regularly in small galleries. He secured representation by a New York gallery ten years after graduation and continues to show annually. His teaching career changed shortly thereafter when he began to teach on the college level, first at Yeshiva University, then at Parsons School of Design. Since the teaching was on an adjunct basis, he supplemented his income as a detective in the evenings. During this period he also received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. After interning with a corporate art consulting firm, Rachael accepted a full-time position following graduation. Two years later, she was promoted to a sales representative, meeting directly with the firm's clients. Within two years, she began to freelance as an art consultant with her own stable of artists. Networking with many artists and her contacts with corporations made a perfect base for her to open her own contemporary art gallery.

### **Bottom Line**

*Entry Level Average Salary:*

BFA: \$20,000 -\$25,000 MFA: \$30,000 -\$35,000

*Special Characteristics:*

The field of Fine Arts is usually a dual career field for those who wish to pursue production, exhibition and sale of their artwork while supporting themselves at the same time.

The Office of Career Services lists over 4000 jobs annually. We offer career counseling and job referrals for those entering their professional field as well as general art-related jobs for those still developing portfolios.

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