

2021 Requirements

DESIGN ARTS

Please be sure you follow all requirements related to your application. Failure to comply with any of the requirements listed below may result in disqualification during the review process and/or make your application ineligible for an award.

Designers are ‘agents of change’ – they re-imagine our world by creating new forms, new products, new processes and new experiences. The Design Arts discipline does NOT include illustration, comic book art, concept art, character design, gaming design, costume design, and set design.

This discipline is for artists who are looking to design for the “real world” in the following categories:

- **Architectural Design** (including building design, interior design, landscape design, environmental design)
- **Product Design** (including industrial design, furniture design, toy design, vehicle design)
- **Graphic Design** (including communication design, packaging design, book design, signage design)
- **Fashion Design** (including clothing design, jewelry design, accessory design, and shoe design)

NOTE: If you are selected as a Winner and attend a YoungArts program, you will be part of an exhibition of works based on your portfolio submission. The curator will be making their selections for the exhibition from your portfolio.

Application Requirements

- **Submit a portfolio of ten (10) individual pages* or images** that demonstrates your ability to ideate through concepts, drawings/sketches and technical renderings, scaled models, objects or garments, etc. within the listed categories of design (Architectural Design, Product Design, Graphic Design, and/or Fashion Design). Documentation of work should be of high quality.
- To help us understand your design process, we ask that **TWO of the ten pages/images show preliminary and process sketches/sketchbook pages and/or preliminary models/mock-ups** that specifically relate to the project’s evolution and development. Process pages may be for different projects.
- **Submit a 1-2 page statement.** Please describe the primary ideas/goals of the projects included in your portfolio AND thoughtfully answer ONE of the following:
 - Select a work of design created by another designer that shows innovation in form, function, purpose, use, typology, or materiality. Tell us what makes this work great in your opinion.
 - Select an existing work of design that you believe has positively benefited culture/society in some way. Provide your individual analysis of its merits.
 - Select an existing work of design that you believe is problematic in its form, function, purpose, use, typology or materiality. Describe how you would redesign it to make it better in some way.

* A “page” consists of one or more images/drawings and/or model photographs on it that illustrates a particular design idea. While a page can (but does not have to) include multiple images, please do not clutter the page with too many images, as it is difficult to view.

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Media Submission Guidelines

While it is expected that you will consult with your teachers and mentors in the selection of portfolio material, you are urged to submit work you feel best represents your creative design interests and the range of your design making and design thinking abilities.

- The portfolio should consist of 10 pages or individual images. Two of the 10 uploads must show preliminary sketches/sketchbook pages, **and/or** models/mock-ups directly related to the work presented in the portfolio.
- The work must fit within the list of specified design categories.
- Applicants can include work in more than one of the listed categories or focus on type of design.
- The work must have been created during the past two years, in or out of school.
- Do not submit slideshows, PowerPoint presentations, animations, movies, audio with images or embed images into Microsoft Word.
- Do not place your name, a watermark, or any identifying information in or on your media submissions.

Technical Specifications

Formatting Images:

- Image File Size: Minimum of 1MB/ Maximum 5 MB.
- Image File Format: JPEG (JPG) preferred, 300 dpi. Please do not submit TIFF images.
- Convert images to color profile sRGB.

Uploading Images:

- Each of the 10 pages/images must be saved and uploaded separately.
- In the spaces provided in the application, please indicate the title of the piece or project (If untitled, can be named Project 1, Project 2, etc.), material/software used, size, and year created for each piece.
- Do not title your files with any identifying information.
- When uploading, verify that the page/image is upright (not sideways or upside down).

Intellectual Property and Copyright Requirements

- All submitted work must be wholly original and may not infringe upon the copyright or other intellectual property or other legal or moral rights of any other person or entity.
- If your work has been submitted to other competitions, you are responsible for getting permission to submit to YoungArts.

Reviewers and Panelists are looking for:

Taken as a package, candidates who demonstrate strong visual and written communication skills; excellent drawing/visualization abilities; a skillful control of materials/software; a willingness to take creative risks; a capacity to think critically about the process, purpose and outcomes of designing; an original/innovative perspective; and a commitment to making work that is meaningful and conceptually sophisticated.