B.A. PROGRAM in ART
University of Hawaii at Hilo

Mission Statement

The Art Major (B.A.) Program in the College of Arts and Sciences in the University of Hawaii at Hilo was inaugurated in January 1986.

The B.A. Program in Art is based upon the creative, experimental, and developmental aspects of art. The program provides students with an understanding of the history of art, the role of art as an expression of our cultural heritage, and of the practice of art in the studio environment with an emphasis on drawing, printmaking, and painting. The program offers opportunities for students, the university, and the community to experience attitudes and forms of visual art in regional, national, and international contexts.

The program provides four main emphases for majors and for non-majors:

- **Art as a profession or career:** In this category, students are prepared for graduate study (M.A. and M.F.A.) following graduation from the program at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. The program supports the scholarship and practice of visual arts. The Art Program implements an educational philosophy based upon an integration of three primary factors. These are 1) the comprehension of aesthetic theory and art history and 2) learned applications of materials and techniques in 3) the development of archetypally unique and creative individual work in arts. The body of work accomplished during the period of study in the program functions as a portfolio for each student.

  The understanding of aesthetic theory, a cognizance of contemporary movements, perspectives of the history of art, and a working relationship of the varied aspects of art forms form a foundation for the program. These relationships in the practice of studio art provide a foundation for each student in the visual arts.

  The emphases for studio majors are in the program are drawing, printmaking, and painting. Students can pursue study in design, video, photography, ceramics, and three-dimensional forms through individually organized curricula using available resources.

- **Art for purposes of a vocation:** Students are prepared in the program for to function as professionals in the graphic design, illustration, applied arts, and teaching. The study of studio media,
methods, and applications, art history, and art theory form the basis for an understanding of the creative process and addresses imagination, aesthetic concepts, creative applications, and the ability to consider with equal awareness, minute details and larger perspectives.

- The study of Art as an avocation For some students the study of art is used to further individual avocational interests. The program provides a sound fundamental basis from which these interests may be developed. The program promotes the concept of “lifelong learning” in the university environment.

- Art as a basis for a liberal arts education. The study of the visual arts is an important component of a liberal arts education. The study of art helps to develop abilities for skillful creative applications, the growth of imagination, and an insight into human cultural relationships.

Description of the Program in Art

The Major in Art requires 42 credits of course work in art. The requirements are 12 credits of foundation studio courses, 12 credits of art history, and 18 credits of studio specialization courses numbered 200 or above in the studio specialization courses. Six credits of the 18 credit total are required as upper division studio courses, numbered 300 or above.

The B.A. program in art is in the studio areas of Painting, Printmaking, and Drawing. Students can pursue curricula in art history and arts administration through the Liberal Studies Program or specialize in Ceramics, Photography, or Applied Arts by integrating Hawaii Community College art courses.

The Minor in Art requires 24 credits in art. The requirements for the Minor include 12 credits of foundation studio courses, three credits of Art 101 or art history, and nine credits of studio specialization courses which are numbered 200 or above.

Students fulfill the Foundation Studio Program requirements as a block of 12 credits during their first two years of study. Students in their junior and senior year of study pursue individual work through the sequence of courses in studio practice. Students develop annual portfolios of their work during each year of their studies.

Course catalogue (*repeatable for 09 credits, **twelve credit maximum) - All courses are 03 credits, except for x99 and listed under the alpha “Art“.

Foundation Program Studio

121: Beginning Drawing
122: Beginning Painting
123: Beginning Two-Dimensional Design
124: Beginning Three-Dimensional Design

Intermediate Studio
215: Intermediate Printmaking - Intaglio
216: Intermediate Printmaking - Lithography
221: Intermediate Drawing*
222: Intermediate Painting

Advanced Studio
300: Intermediate Studio Seminar

315: Adv Printmaking - Intaglio*
316: Adv. Printmaking - Lithography*
321: Adv Drawing*
322: Adv Painting*
399: Directed Studies**
494/5: Special Topics in Studio Art

Art Appreciation
101: Introduction to Visual Arts

Art History
270: Aspects of Western Art
280: Aspects of Asian Art
370: Modern Art
375: Christianity and the Arts
380: Art of China
381: Art of Japan
385: Religious Arts of East Asia
390: Seminar in Contemporary Art
485 Art of Islam
494: Special Topics in Art History

Special Topics courses in art history have included courses in Oceanic Art, Buddhist Art, Chinese Painting and Calligraphy, and the History of Women in Art.

Studio courses in ceramics and some courses in textiles and photography are available through concurrent registration with Hawaii Community College. Being prepared for 2001-2002 curriculum approval are courses for non-major students in drawing and painting.

Student advising is focused upon individual student considerations and direction. Students are prepared by faculty mentors to manage their program of study and are charged with the comprehension of the requirements of the Art Program.
and the academic requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences for the baccalaureate degree.

In addition to the curriculum in art, students participate in workshops, visiting artists programs, and in the organization and installation of regional, national, and international exhibitions. A series of national and international exhibitions, which are presented in the Campus Center and Art Department Galleries, and a program of prominent visiting artists provides learning experiences which broaden the scope of the curriculum and serve as additional resources for the program. The annual student exhibition, organized, maintained, and installed by the students in the program, is presented in late April and closes in September.

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Program Goals

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Listed individually the goals of the program support students in the following areas.

1. The development of working relationships with materials, techniques, procedures, and training in creative exploration of individual expression and ideas.

2. The development of creative thinking and critical analysis in the area of the visual arts. Critical thinking skills and the ability to express this process are significant aspects of studio practice.

3. The understanding of the history of world cultures and an appreciation for developments in the contemporary mainstream. Comprehension of the role of art as an expression of cultural heritage.
The experience and exposure to mainstream visual arts through national and international exhibitions to establish a broader base of comprehension for contemporary movements in art.

Preparation for graduate studies in studio art. The program areas in the Art Department which can support graduate school candidates are painting, printmaking, and drawing.

The development of a foundation for professional occupations in the areas of graphic design, illustration, and teaching.

The development of organizational and planning skills and experiences required in the profession of art.

**Student Outcomes**

**Selected Listing of Student Achievement**

The Art Program has provided a strong educational foundation for its students. Since the inception of the Art Program, art students have received recognition in exhibitions and visual arts programs.

Since the mid-1970s, students from the University of Hawaii at Hilo have participated in the Big Island Art Guild (BIAG) Spring Arts Exhibition, a juried show in Hilo at the Wailoa Center. Students have received numerous awards.

During the past three years, 1997, 98, 99, an art major has received a State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Purchase Award in the exhibition. The Purchase Award is included in the permanent collection of the SFCA. The exhibition regularly includes the work of graduates of the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

Art students participate in the Pacific States Biennial National Exhibition Series and the Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition in Hilo, the Honolulu Academy of Arts Artists of Hawaii Annual and the Honolulu Printmaker's Exhibitions Jurors for the exhibitions are prominent American and international artists and curators.

In 1987, art major Sangmi Lee was one of 40 national award winners in the Liquitex National Fine Arts Awards competition for graduate and undergraduate students in the United States and Canada. She joined other distinguished undergraduate winners from many major institutions: School of the Art Institute of Chicago, University of Illinois, Rhode Island School of Design, York University, Boston University, State University of New York, University of British Columbia, University of Texas, University of Washington, Stanford University, Temple University, Columbia University, and elsewhere. Sponsored by Binney & Smith, Inc,
manufacturers of Liquitex paints and art materials, the award provided each student selection with $500.00 of Liquitex art materials of their choice.

In 1988, University of Hawaii at Hilo art major, Kelvin Kaneshiro was selected for a Liquitex National Award. Jurors for the 1988 competition included Professor Bernard Chaet, Yale University, Professor Peter Jacobs, University of Wyoming, contemporary artist Melissa Miller, Dean Martin Prekop of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Professor Barbara Rogers, San Francisco Art Institute, and Professor Larry Walker, Director of the School of Art and Design, Georgia State University.

In 1990, the Art Department sponsored two national award winners, Rhonda Rosa and Victoria Johnson, in the Liquitex National Fine Arts Competition. Victoria Johnson’s three-dimensional construction was selected for purchase and is included in the permanent corporate collection of Binney & Smith, Inc. And in 1994, Keith Tallett, II, received the Liquitex Excellence in Art national award for his work in painting and printmaking.

During March 3-31, 1995, twenty-one students from the Art Department participated in “Printmakers from the University of Hawaii at Hilo,” an exhibition at the Santa Barbara City College, California. The students were David Alipio, Harry Andrews, Brian Brand Bittner, Merry Lum Blechta, Tobias Brill, Perry Buchalter, Rebecca Burnett, DanThou DeMotta, Chieko Eto, Mei Dor Hu, Connie Jennings, Lesley Kealamakia, Kainoa Makua, Keith Ribbentrop, Maureen Riley-Moriarty, Joel Savoie, Ann Schultz, Keith Tallctt, Kim Tateishi, Rayneli Uchida, and John Wright.

In 1996, art students, Mei Dor Hu, Brian Bittner, and Jason Escritor, represented the United States in the DD International Student Art Exhibition. Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto College of Art—an exhibition of dessin (sketches) and drawings produced by students at art colleges in the world, November 19 to December 1, 1996, in Kyoto, Japan. Twenty-four colleges in 21 countries participated. The Art Department of the University of Hawaii at Hilo represented the United States and is one of two colleges representing the North America Programs representing Asia, the Americas, Europe, Oceania, and Africa participated.

During the past five years, work from students in the Art Program has been included in the permanent collections of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts, The Printmaking Workshop of New York City, Rutgers University Center for Innovative Printmaking, and the University of Oregon.

During the 1998-99 academic year, in addition to the annual student exhibition and other campus activities, students from the University of Hawaii at Hilo participated in a number of professional activities.
Chris Churchill. 1998 BIAG Fall Exhibition, East Hawaii Cultural Center Gallery, Hilo, Solo exhibition of paintings and drawings, EHCC; 71st Annual-Exhibition, Honolulu Printmakers Association, Linekona Art Center, Honolulu; 1999 BIAG Spring Exhibition, Wailoa Center, Hilo, SFCA Purchase Award, 1999 Honolulu Printmakers Award of Excellence in Printmaking; 1999 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition, Hilo

Ron Bennett 1998 BIAG Fall Exhibition, Hilo; 71st Annual Exhibition, Honolulu Printmakers Association 1999 BIAG Spring Exhibition, Hilo

S Renee Visaya: 1999 BIAG Spring Exhibition, Hilo

Brian Harrison 1999 BIAG Spring Exhibition, Hilo, Juror’s Award, painting

Eric Ofstie: 1998 BIAG Fall Exhibition, Jurors Award, works on paper

University of Oregon/University of Hawaii at Hilo Portfolio Exchange Project, During 1998-99, students Ron Bennett, Chris Churchill, Fidelis Buehler, Eric Ofstie, Jennalee Shire, Renée Visaya, Wallace Young, Pamela Ybanez, and Jerry Sasaki participated in a portfolio exchange project with the University of Oregon

During 1999-2000, art students’ activities include the following: Chris Churchill (’00) and Brian Harrison (’00), and Jerry Sasaki (’01) represented the University of Hawaiʻi at Hilo in the international printmaking exhibition, “Next Generation,” Northwest Print Council, Portland, Oregon. The exhibition includes art students from colleges and universities in Oregon, Washington, Montana, Hawaii, Alaska, Idaho, and British Columbia and Alberta, Canada. The exhibition travels to colleges, universities, art schools, and museums throughout the Pacific Northwest through 2001.

Art major Kaori Ukaji was selected for the National Shoebox Sculpture Exhibition, at UH-Manoa. In 1999-2000 Ukaji presented a slide-lecture of her work in the visiting artists series at Manoa in January, 2000. She has been selected by the Contemporary Art Museum, Honolulu for the Biennial of Hawaiʻi Artists, Summer 2001

In 1999, Ron Bennett (’99) and Churchill were in the 10th Annual International Print Biennial, City of Varna, Graphic Art Gallery - Varna, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Republic of Bulgaria.
Other Considerations

The Art Department has pursued strategies to track students' achievements after graduation with varying degrees of success. Students regularly contact the Art Department for recommendations, to visit, or to announce news of professional activities. Electronic technology has greatly facilitated communication.

Students have pursued graduate study in fine arts at the University of Oregon, Pratt Art Institute, New York City, University of California, Santa Barbara, East Carolina University (NC.), Southern Illinois University, the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and others. In May, 1999, former UHH students Mei Dor Hu and Keith Tallett, Jr. received their Master of Fine Arts degrees from the San Francisco Art Institute. There is a high degree of interest for graduate study.

Serving as an informational bridge with graduates, exhibition announcements and catalogues are mailed to alumni. Hana No‘eau, the Department summer newsletter has informed students and alumni of the programs, workshops, and events scheduled for the department and items relating to the activities of former students. The Art Department website provides information on exhibits, and student and alumni newsletters have been posted via email.

Graduates of the art program work in many different capacities throughout the State of Hawai‘i. Graduates are teaching in the school system (K-12), public and private, in the State of Hawaii. Former UHH students, who have completed their graduate studies live and work in Hawaii, California, Oregon, the Midwest, and the East Coast. Former students are university faculty, teach internationally, are employed as designers or in applied arts, and work in art therapy.

Feedback from alumni has been positive. It substantiates the strengths of the curriculum. As expected, however, students are able to see where resources have been superior, adequate, or minimal when compared to other institutions. The strength of the UHH program has been the high level of the aesthetic discussion within the program and the serious visual explorations pursued by students in the program.