of recent Notre Dame Studio Art majors started full-time jobs, enrolled in graduate school, entered service programs, or launched independent projects within six months of graduation.

Study Studio Art. Do anything.

40% enrolled in graduate or professional school
Gender studies: University of Wisconsin-Madison
Geosciences: University of Texas
Education: University of Oregon
History: Colorado State University
Law: University of Notre Dame
Medicine: University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Painting: Kendall College of Art and Design
Non-profit administration: University of Notre Dame
Studio art: Eastern Illinois University

Assistant, Rothman Brecher
Ehrlich Livingston
Campus ministry program manager, Notre Dame Dublin Global Gateway
Communications coordinator, SKOOG Productions
Graduate program, Ford Motor Co.
Leadership development associate, Advantage Solutions Group
Photography intern, Indianapolis Colts
Sales associate, Follett

Madeline Baker ’12
Studio Art major
Art director for marketing, Conversant LLC

“I had been leaning toward an art major for a while and repeatedly talking myself out of it, thinking it impractical. I met with some of the professors and learned more about the program. After seeing the broad range of student work on display and experiencing the energy in the building, I was sold. It just felt right. The Studio Art major had everything I was seeking as a complement to my pre-health major — experienced professors, stimulating classes, and the chance to try new things while building my creative skill set.

“In my current position at an ad tech/digital media company, I use what I learned in my major on a daily basis through creative decisioning. I specialize in brand strategy and data visualization, two of the more analytical subsets of design, but even the calculated parts of my job are rooted in my foundational art knowledge. My traditional media background and fine art training make me a standout candidate in a digital design industry — since I came up in drawing and painting, I don’t always think the way designers are traditionally taught to think.

“Breaking into the job market with a Studio Art major first and foremost requires a willingness to try and a desire to learn in your chosen field — enthusiasm almost always trumps inexperience. Starting a creative career also often calls for persistence in hunting down open positions and connecting with people. Even if it takes some time, opportunities will present themselves if you keep trying.

“The benefits to studying Studio Art are very real. You learn the value of hard work and personal accountability. There’s no way to fake a painting — you have to put in the time. Professional success is difficult to find without that kind of work ethic. That creative passion can be channeled into any job or career path, not just artistic ones. Studio Art teaches you to really care about what you want to do regardless of what that is. The art program at Notre Dame educates you in finding your voice and expressing your opinion. The world is full of questions just waiting for creative answers — all you have to do is speak up.”

8% launched independent projects

Curriculum requirements
Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art
(36 credit hours)
Drawing I
2D Foundations
3D Foundations
2 art history courses
4 studio electives
3 electives

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art
(66 credit hours)
Drawing I
2D Foundations
3D Foundations
Photography I
Figure Drawing
5 courses in area of concentration
5 electives
9-credit yearlong BFA thesis

15% entered service programs
Alliance for Catholic Education, Memphis, Tennessee
City Year, Little Rock, Arkansas

Source: Center for Career Development First Destination Reports, 2010-2018

Study everything. Do anything.

Department of Art, Art History & Design  artdept.nd.edu
306 Riley Hall of Art & Design  574-631-7602  art.1@nd.edu

Director of Undergraduate Studies  ebbeck1@nd.edu

ARTS AND LETTERS