MASTERS IN PRACTICE.

KENDALL COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN OF FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN DRAWING, PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY AND PRINTMAKING
At Kendall, that means a thorough examination of history, a deep exploration of theory, and expert instruction in materials and media, all guided by our own practicing artists. If you’re willing to dig deep and put into practice what you learn, we can help you become a true master of your art.

There’s only one way to fully develop your skills: in a word: practice.
SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS.
Kendall’s graduate program focuses on four disciplines: drawing, painting, photography and printmaking. Whichever you choose, you can count on honing your critical thinking and the skills you use to communicate both verbally and visually.

DARE TO EXPERIMENT.
While all of our programs are based in tradition, we encourage students to challenge the boundaries of common media definitions. In addition to graduate program facilities, you’ll have many professional-quality resources at your fingertips, including extensive woodworking, metal-smithing and digital media facilities, along with our library and furniture collection. Students considering careers in higher education can also take advantage of our teaching seminar, which covers current methodologies, preparatory and studio practices, and other practical teaching skills. A summer exchange program in Florence, Italy, and trips to New York City and Chicago every year offer even more ways to expand your thinking.
ATMOSPHERE

VISITING ARTISTS

EVERY YEAR, WE'RE EXCITED TO ENRICH OUR OWN EXPERTISE WITH A SERIES OF VISITING ARTISTS, DESIGNERS, AND SCHOLARS. PAST GUESTS HAVE INCLUDED GHADA AMER, PAINTER, DRAWER, PRINTMAKER/EAMES DEMETRIUS FILMMAKER AND VIDEO ARTIST, PRINCIPAL OF THE EAMES OFFICE AND GRANDSON OF CHARLES AND RAY EAMES; JAMES ELKINS, ART HISTORIAN, AUTHOR, THEORIST; LORA FOSBERG, DRAWER AND PRINTMAKER; TOM FRIEDMAN, ARTIST; MICHAEL GRAVES, ARCHITECT AND DESIGNER; P. SCOTT MAKELA, MULTIMEDIA ARTIST AND DESIGNER; W.J. MITCHELL, AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN; ETHAN MURROW, DRUMMER, FILMMAKER/DR. BEVERLY RUSSELL, INTERNATIONAL DESIGNER; JENNY SCOBEL, ARTIST; SANDY SKOGLUND, PHOTOGRAPHER, GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT; SUSAN S. SZENASY, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, METROPOLIS MAGAZINE; MAGGIE TAYLOR, PHOTOGRAPHER; MASSIMO AND LEILA VIGNELLI, INTERNATIONAL DESIGNERS; RAFAEL VINOLY, INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED ARCHITECT, INTERIOR DESIGNER AND URBAN PLANNER; ADAM WEINBERG, ALICE PRATT BROWN DIRECTOR OF THE WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART.

THE RIGHT FIT

For a mid-size school in a mid-size Midwestern city, Kendall is anything but middle-of-the-road. We combine a team of diverse instructors and small class sizes to create a learning environment where professors will know your name and your work. As a Kendall graduate student, you’ll have easy access to both community and solitude. Every day will bring fresh opportunities to learn from experts and other artists within and outside your concentration.
CREATE, REFINE, INSPIRE

PROGRAM FACILITIES
Drawing desks, easels and life drawing studio with large flatbed scanner and large format black-and-white laser printer / Painting and drawing labs with natural lighting, taborets, drawing desks, easels and storage space for student work / Printmaking lab for professional processes including woodcutting, engraving, etching, screen-printing and aquatint / Photo labs with separate facilities for B/W and color film development / Shooting room with lights, green wall, stands, and access to light meters and other photography equipment.

SHARED RESOURCES
The Baker Furniture Collection, housing more than three centuries of period furniture and decorative arts. Open to students for study, inspiration and contemplation / Student commons for collaboration, gatherings and work displays / On-campus bookstore offering all required textbooks and course-related materials, including art supplies / Computer labs modeled on real-world design studios with professional-grade hardware and software / Print lab with a color laser printer capable of printing 48 inches in diameter. Color laser printer and B/W printer, both capable of producing 11×17 prints and able to print from classrooms / Spraying and mounting room equipped with a spray fan and cutting tables / Digital fabrication lab, complete with 3D scanning, 3D printing and laser cutting.

STUDIOS
Studio spaces are available and free to graduate students. These large working studios offer natural light, utilities, large worktables, critique space and 24-hour secure access.
Kendall grad students will gain experience in every aspect of mounting a professional exhibition, including applying, selecting and physically displaying their work. Our own galleries include:

**The Kendall Gallery:** Work from visiting artists from around the world, with occasional exhibitions by Kendall faculty / **Gallery 114:** Graduate thesis exhibitions and featured exhibitions by visiting artists / **Gallery 602:** Competitions for painting undergrads and select juried exhibitions, all run by graduate students / **Gallery 104:** Undergraduate exhibitions.

We can also link you to many independently operated galleries and exhibitions throughout West Michigan.
ABOUT THE AREA

Kendall sits in the middle of the thriving city of Grand Rapids, recently named “America’s Greenest City” by Fast Company magazine. We are within walking distance of some of the city’s best restaurants, nightlife, a major entertainment arena, a convention center and a vibrant arts community. Studios and living spaces are affordable and readily available nearby, and the beaches and wine country of Lake Michigan and the attractions of Chicago and Detroit are all within convenient driving distance. Seasonal farmers’ markets, public transportation, the Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Amtrak rail systems, state-of-the-art health care and a safe, friendly environment make our community even more inviting.
ARTS COMMUNITY AND CULTURE
West Michigan has a rich arts community, with strong ties between business, entertainment and education. Along with its history as a furniture capital, Grand Rapids is home to:

GRAM, the world’s first LEED-certified art museum / Alexander Calder’s La Grand Vitesse
the nation’s first public art funded by the NEA / ArtPrize an annual open art competition offering the world’s largest art prize / Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park / UICA
Michigan’s largest contemporary arts center / Avenue for the Arts downtown art district
/ Van Andel Museum Center and Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium / Gerald R. Ford Museum
honoring the 38th president of the United States / Professional opera, ballet, symphony
and theater companies / Multiple galleries and juried exhibitions / An active music scene with free outdoor concerts, an independent radio station, and multiple venues for major recording artists and local musicians.

Opportunities abound for students to explore, experiment and contribute at every level during their time at Kendall.

EXPLORE GRAND RAPIDS: RAPIDGROWTHMEDIA.COM / VISITGRANDRAPIDS.ORG / DOWNTOWNGR.ORG / GRANDRAPIDS.ORG / GRNOW.COM / REVUEWM.COM
Our Graduate Professors are working artists with a diverse range of skills, offering students a varied set of creative approaches and real-world experiences. We thrive on personal contact and close working relationships with our students and one another.

To me, the “practice” of art history means looking, analyzing and applying what objects tell us about societies of the past to understand the aesthetic and cultural conditions of the present.

Mastering art history instruction involves getting students to think in terms broader than their own artmaking. With a wider perspective of social and historical issues, they can see that their own work is part of a historical tradition.

In my series A Theory of Everything, past, present and future can be condensed into a magical pictorial setting. In reality, the more data we uncover about the universe, the more fantastic our situation appears. In practice, my need for awe and mystery overpowers common sense and fear of embarrassment.

Photography, by its very nature, defines contemporary culture; viewing the world around oneself and translating it onto a two-dimensional surface is a practice that requires a distinct personal vision, a need to communicate with others and above all else, perseverance.

Art history is full of stories—personal, social, cultural, historical and aesthetic. The practice of art history is the fascinating intersection of those stories, providing inspiration, depth of knowledge and insight for the grad student.

Do you want to know what it means to be a “Master in Practice”? Just stop by my studio any night at 1 a.m. and ask me.

Mastery is unbridled intellectual curiosity and the practice of creative thinking. Intellectual curiosity is the key to mastering all practices.

I paint because it’s what I know.

My work critiques sociocultural practices and their inherent absurdities and contradictions. My studio practice includes traditional and experimental drawing processes and materials, hand-cut and digital photomontage, digital drawing, and lasertran technology.

If the definition of practice is a systematic exercise toward perfection, then it must be motivated by the singular and absolute passion of doing it.

Through my own work, I search for a deeper, more sustained way of looking at the world. This practice and approach to making art is what I hope to promote with my teaching as well.

I am interested in a research-led visual practice examining the emotionally affective cultural signifiers, metaphors, and analogies employed in our attempts to mediate the experience of illness.

Eric Anderson
PhD Columbia University (NYC) / Assistant Professor

Karen Carter
PhD University of Chicago / Assistant Professor

Jay Constantine
MFA Northern Illinois University / Professor

Patricia Constantine
MFA University of Cincinnati / Associate Professor

Adam D. Dekraeker
MFA Indiana University / Assistant Professor

Suzanne Eberle
PhD University of Detroit / Professor

Stephen Halko
MFA The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts / Assistant Professor

Darlene Kaczmarczyk
MFA Columbia College, Chicago / Professor

Meredith Palumbo
PhD Indiana University / Assistant Professor

Boyd Quinn
MFA Eastern Michigan University / Professor

Deborah Rockman
MFA University of Cincinnati / Professor

Margaret Vega
MFA Western Michigan University / Professor

Mariel Versluis
MFA Syracuse University / Associate Professor

Diane Zeeuw
MFA Wayne State University / Professor
At Kendall, we invite students to investigate drawing as an independent discipline and a valuable tool to explore other disciplines. We encourage MFA students to engage the full spectrum of possibilities, from traditional pencil and paper to more experimental practices including collage, mixed media, large-scale drawings and installations. Our Drawing MFA program emphasizes expertise and essential working knowledge in art history, aesthetics, and contemporary criticism and theory. Students can expect lively in-class discussions and close working relationships with instructors, who will guide them in conceptual development, critical thinking skills and the creation of a cohesive body of work.

**EXPLORE:**
- graphite
- ink
- watercolor
- crayon
- marker
- ballpoint pen
- carbon paper
- oil pastel
- correction fluid
- transfers
- digital drawing
- cut paper
- wax
- gesso
- gunpowder
- photographs
- wood
- acetate
- cardboard
- vellum
- mylar
- yupo
- tracing paper

**A DYNAMIC AND EVOLVING DISCIPLINE**
Kendall’s MFA Painting students interact with a diverse faculty to investigate and master traditional and conceptual approaches to figurative, landscape and abstract work. Our program recognizes the permeability among disciplines, and we encourage experimentation, research and boundary-crossing where appropriate for each student. Students engage in critiques, develop critical thinking and explore conceptual issues during their studies.

The Kendall Painting MFA fosters creativity, innovation, responsibility and intellectual growth. Our faculty exposes students to a variety of perspectives through one-to-one studio conversations and in-depth classroom critiques. Painting students also enroll in a variety of seminars that prepare them for the intellectual rigors of being an artist, the writing of an artist statement and the commitment of creating a solid body of work.

EXPLORE: traditional oil on canvas; acrylic; watercolor; encaustic; mixed media using collage, sculptural and digital elements.
Since its invention in 1839, photography has been evolving at a steady pace with technology. The Kendall Photography MFA takes a broad view of this evolution, considering traditional techniques and processes alongside contemporary issues and technology. Our students regularly push the boundaries to develop ideas that redefine and expand the genre.

We challenge students to express ideas, investigate cultural circumstances and communicate specifically and effectively using their chosen medium. Competency will be expected in analog, digital and alternative processes, and group critiques will be used to expand the student’s depth and breadth as an artist. The program culminates in the development of a cohesive body of work for the MFA Exhibition.

EXPLORE:

multiple formats, from pinhole to large format; non-silver processes such as cyanotype and Van Dyke brown prints; liquid emulsions; collage and montage; combining media such as printmaking and digital imaging with photography
Thanks to the digital influence, printmaking has undergone tremendous changes in the past 15 years. Today’s artists have enormously expanded options, combining traditional techniques refined hundreds of years ago with contemporary processes adapted from other industries. Because printmaking also functions as a way to produce work in multiples, it attracts artists from various disciplines, who often take printmaking beyond the realm of 2D work and continue to invigorate and reinvent the field.

The Printmaking MFA encourages students to translate their philosophical and personal concepts into visual form. Classes serve as a forum where ideas and skills are developed and critiqued under the close guidance of our professors. Concept development is addressed throughout the course of study, culminating in a cohesive body of work.

**EXPLORE:** woodcut, linocut, lithography, silkscreen, intaglio, contemporary nontoxic processes, digitally and photographically derived imagery, mixed media prints, monoprints, collographs and artists’ books

**PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES WITH TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA**
COURSES

Students in all MFA programs must complete 60 credit hours, a first-year review, a final review, a digital portfolio, a comprehensive artist’s statement and a thesis exhibition. For complete course descriptions, see www.kcad.edu.

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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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PLEASE NOTE: Graduate students may opt to complete the program over the course of two and a half or more years. Nine credits per semester is considered full-time for a graduate student. The maximum amount of time a student may take to complete the program is five years total.

SEMINARS

MFA students can take advantage of our in-depth, semester-long seminar courses addressing ideas, issues or practical information of value to all students, regardless of their media interests or material expertise. All seminars are designed to enrich the students’ knowledge base, inform their practice and propel their professional career goals.

EXPLORE TOPICS SUCH AS:

- Art History Seminars
- Fine Art Seminars
- Art and Politics
- Professional Practices
- Mapping the Other
- Ethics and Visual Representation
- Contemporary Art
- Post-Structuralism
- The Garden as Art
- New Visual Studies
- The Body in Art
- Teaching Seminar
- Contemporary Painting
- The Art of Ancient Mexico
- Art and the Psyche
- Contemporary Non-Western Art
- Fine Art and Fashion of the 20th/21st Centuries
- African-American Art
- Chinese Painting
- Romanticism
- Art and the Spiritual
- Historiography
- The Art of Islam
- Rembrandt
- Contemporary Figure Painting: The London School

Please see www.kcad.edu for our most current offerings.

APPLY

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking admission must have a BFA or equivalent, awarded from an institution accredited by an appropriate regional accrediting agency. Applicants must have earned a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale throughout their undergraduate studies. Applicants must also present a portfolio of work that demonstrates maturity in studio work.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application.
- Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education previously attended.
- Letter of intent outlining proposed artistic goals.
- Concise artist statement that addresses the philosophical foundation of your work.
- Curriculum vitae.
- Portfolio of work: 20 images in chosen area of emphasis, submitted on a CD-ROM. Digital images should not exceed a resolution size of 640 x 480 and should be saved as JPEG files. Each image must be labeled with title, size and medium and year.
- Three letters of recommendation.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students must submit verification of English proficiency by obtaining a score of at least 61 (internet-based) on the TOEFL test. Transcripts must be in English or accompanied by certified English translations. In addition, international students must also provide an affidavit of financial support (sponsorship letter along with bank statement providing sufficient evidence of available financial resources).

FUNDING YOUR STUDY & COSTS

ESTIMATED COSTS

Please see www.kcad.edu for current tuition and fees and estimates for room and board, books and supplies, and other expenses.

FINANCIAL AWARDS

We believe anyone who seeks a MFA degree should have the opportunity to do so, regardless of personal finances. So we’ll do everything we can to help you figure out how best to fund your studies. The fact is, more than 80% of Kendall MFA students receive some sort of financial assistance. Find out more at kcad.edu/fundingyoureducation.

FELLOWSHIPS

Outstanding full-time MFA applicants may be awarded a full tuition and fee waiver.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Partial-tuition scholarships are available to students based on an outstanding application portfolio as well as academic achievement.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

A limited number of graduate assistantships are awarded to students for up to 15 hrs/week.

For further information about financial aid, please contact:

Financial Aid Office
Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University
17 Fountain St. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

p: 616.451.2797
f: 616.831.9689
e: kcadfinaid@ferris.edu
Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University is authorized under the laws of the state of Michigan to grant Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Fine Arts and Master of Art Education degrees. As part of Ferris State University’s MBA program, Kendall also offers an Advanced Studies Certificate in Design and Innovation Management.

As part of Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art and Design is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504 / 800.621.7440.

Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, VA 20190-5248 / 703.437.0700.

Kendall does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, ethnic origin, religion, age, sex, marital status, height, weight, orientation, or physical/learning disabilities in any of its educational programs, activities, admissions, scholarships or employment opportunities.

The college reserves the right to make changes and revisions to this brochure. For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website www.kcad.edu.

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Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University

For more information on the Kendall MFA program, please contact
KCAD Admissions.
kcadadmissions@ferris.edu
1-800-676-2787