

Graduate Programs in Fine Arts

www.nhia.edu/mfa

LOW RESIDENCY GRADUATE STUDIES

Our degrees in Creative Writing, Photography, Visual Arts, and Writing for Stage and Screen run as distinct two-year programs, each with its own faculty body, and respective visiting artists, writers, actors, and critics. In residence, students experience the added benefit of cross-disciplinary dialogue and collaboration between faculty, staff, and students across programs.

Students in all programs come together twice a year for ten-day residencies, during which they engage with visiting artists and writers, attend presentations, performances, and lectures, participate in critique, and take seminars that ground their work in historical and contemporary theory and practice. Professional practice courses built into each program equip students with a clear vision and plan for the next phase of their artistic and professional career. Between residencies, students work one-on-one with a faculty advisor and a studio-mentor, building on the creative foundation established at the residency in an individualized program of study and support.

Throughout their time in the program, graduates gain an understanding of their place in contemporary practice, develop an expanding professional network, and gain a transformed awareness of themselves as citizens and artists.

A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

- Transforming students as makers, thinkers and global citizens
- Non-prescriptive, individualized mentoring and advising by both emerging and established artists/writers
- Responsive, adaptive and evaluative curriculum
- Cross-disciplinary dialog and opportunities; residencies run concurrently
- Focus on sustainable practice, professional training, and career planning

LOCATIONS

Our ten-day residencies take place on our Manchester and Sharon, New Hampshire campuses; Manchester with the benefits of an urban campus with abundant restaurants and cultural events, and rural Sharon, with the charm of the nearby village of Peterborough, and the surrounding natural landscape. Both campuses boast historic buildings and modern, renovated studio and classroom space, as well as multiple exhibition venues.



Image Courtesy of: Patricia Miranda, Visual Arts Faculty

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Ready to take the next step? To apply, please submit:

- \$50 Application fee
- Official transcript from undergraduate degree
- Two letters of recommendation
- 3-5 page personal statement
- Resume/CV
- 10-20 images of work (Photography or Visual Arts applicants)
- 20-30 page writing sample (Creative Writing Applicants)
- Two writing samples, 10-20 pages each (Writing for Stage & Screen Applicants)

Apply online at: nhia.edu/mfa

For more info: gradprograms@nhia.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- November 1 – Priority Application date for winter residency and fall 2017 semester (NHIA will waive the \$50 application fee if complete application materials are received by May 1)
- December 1 – Application Deadline
- Rolling admission application consideration on a space available basis after December 1



Image Courtesy of: Ella Carlson, MFA Visual Arts Alumna

VISUAL ARTS

“Visual Arts students have the opportunity to dialogue with a diverse range of artists, critics, writers, and thinkers. It’s inspiring to witness the creative and personal transformation that occurs in this process, yet it’s important to point out that, in our program, this transformation is nurtured and supported so that each student develops a life-long sustainable art practice and professional art career.”

~ **Craig Stockwell, Visual Arts Program Director**

CREATIVE WRITING

“On the one hand, NHIA’s Creative Writing program can be a possibility space for hybridity and cross-pollination with other art forms, and on the other, a place where writers understand what they need in order to be writers in today’s publishing landscape. At each residency, we bring in editors from small presses and literary journals to give students on-the-spot feedback about their possibilities in publishing.”

~ **Monica Bilson, Creative Writing Program Director**

WRITING FOR STAGE & SCREEN

“Our hands-on, collaborative approach to teaching the craft and art of script writing acknowledges that the script—play, screenplay, or teleplay—is a means to an end and not an end in itself. At each residency, professional SAG and AEA actors and other theatre and film/TV artists give initial voice to student works-in-progress, coaxing the writers’ eyes to leave the page and experience their work beginning to take on a life of its own.”

~ **Buzz McLaughlin, Writing for Stage & Screen Program Director**

PHOTOGRAPHY

“Students working toward their MFA in Photography at the New Hampshire Institute of Art have a rigorous yet balanced studio and academic practice where they spend time discussing today’s trends in photography while having their artwork critiqued by visiting artists, critics, curators, and faculty. At each residency, students have opportunities to utilize two unique resources at our Institute: a rare photobook library and our fine art photography collection, one of the largest of any art school in New England.”

~ **Jason Landry, Photography Program Director**



“When NHIA’s four Master of Fine Arts Programs come together during one of our shared residencies, the room hums with the energy of cross-pollination. Students in each program have the challenge and opportunity of drilling deep within their chosen discipline, building technical and conceptual acuity and critical awareness. It’s inspiring to witness individual artists and writers finding and claiming their voice, yet in our programs, there’s a bed-rock belief that the insights that come from cross-disciplinary dialogue are the genesis of artistic work and identity that is deeply rooted, yet remains fluid and renewable. Each of our MFA graduates develops a distinctive, creative voice and a sustainable, professional practice through which they can make their mark in the world.”

~ **Lucinda Bliss, Dean of Graduate Studies**



“From the very first residency, I was exposed to methods of understanding art that made me view the world differently. My work was propelled forward by the vibrant community of artists and mentors I gained access to. As a graduate, I feel so much more confident in my engagement with the contemporary art conversation, and in my new job as faculty, I strive to inspire the same confidence in my students.”

~ **Joe Acone, MFA Visual Arts Alumnus**



“Having the opportunity to work alongside fellow artists as part of my Creative Writing MFA experience has allowed me to build a dynamic and diverse community for collaboration and support. I have developed deep friendships through the process of engaging artistically with my peers. I have begun to think differently, more broadly, about what process means and about how art practice can be integrated into my life post-graduation.”

~ **Maxine Marshall, MFA Creative Writing Student**