



EASTWOOD COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE  
INTEGRATED ARTS PROGRAM  
**VISUAL ARTS AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

**What you need to prepare to audition for the Visual Art Major**

- A portfolio of 8 – 10\*artworks that you've completed in the last two years. Each piece must have a completed Portfolio Description Sheet attached to the back of it.
- The two required pieces of artwork described below (The Self Portrait & the Non-Objective Circle Design).

\*One of the pieces in your portfolio can be a sketchbook

**Important Notes:**

It is strongly recommended that you include art work done in a variety of media and on several different subject matters. (i.e: drawings in pencil, charcoal, or conte; paintings in watercolour, acrylic or oil; pastels; printmaking; pen & ink; computer art; digital photography prints; sculpture; etc.) Photographs may be submitted where work cannot be transported. All two-dimensional work must be original. Three-dimensional work may be photographed from several views and presented together

Please bring your sketchbook(s). Your sketchbook may count as one of your portfolio submissions (recommended).

You will have the opportunity to explain the artwork in your portfolio using the Portfolio Description Sheets. Every piece of artwork in your portfolio **MUST** have a description sheet attached to the back of it. Portfolio Description Sheets can be found in the "Supplementary Materials" section on the "New IAP Applicants" page of the ECI website.

**Required Pieces**

**1. The Self Portrait**

Create a self-portrait. The portrait should be "Drawing from Life", not a cartoon, anime, or abstract portrait.

- Use graphite (non coloured pencil).
- Your paper should measure 25 cm x 35 cm. Include a background which is unusual and suggests some of your interests and concerns.
- Sign your portrait in pencil and give it a title.
- Include all preliminary(draft) work you created to develop the final image.

**2. The Non Objective Circle, a Creative Design Problem:**

- Draw a circle no less than 10 cm in diameter.
- Divide the circle into 5 sections.
- Use a variety non-objective (non-representational) shapes, patterns and/or lines to create harmonious patterns, colour, and value contrast in each of the 5 sections.
- Shade with coloured pencil crayons.
- Include all preliminary (draft) work you developed to create the final design.



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**On the Day of your Audition:**

**A. Portfolio Submission- Bring your Portfolio with you on the day of your audition.**

You will audition with a group of 10-15 other students. You will be led to the art room where you will be asked to remove your artwork from your portfolio case or folder with the two required pieces on top. Art teachers will review your portfolio while you participate in a Visual Art class. At the end of the class, you can return your artwork to your portfolio and take it home with you!

**B. The Drawing Class**

This will be an interactive class led by the Integrated Arts Program visual arts teachers. Don't worry, plenty of instruction will be provided. You'll also get to meet other potential IAP student. Remember who took the class with you. You never know, you may see them again next year! You will explore, draw, and critique using 2D media. The class will last approximately 1.5 hours.

**Visual Art Audition FAQs**

*What is appropriate presentation for the portfolio? What is a 'mat'?*

Presentation of artwork in your portfolio:

- The presentation of your artwork should be neat and clean.
- Try not to rip, roll, or haphazardly plop your artwork into a portfolio or folder. Don't abuse the art you've worked so hard to create!
- You are NOT required to have a professional portfolio case for this audition. A simple cardboard folder will suffice. If you have a black portfolio case, by all means use it, but it's not a requirement.

Matting Artwork:

- There is no need to pay for a professional matting for your artwork. Instead, you can mount your work on a sheet of black bristol board.
- Be neat when you mat. Only glue the corners onto the bristol board and keep the border a consistent width all the way around.
- You can use a window mat if you like, but it is not required. If you do use a window mat, make sure it's black or white.
- Please, no framed work. It's too breakable.

Presentation is important and we know you are trying to show your best work, but there is no need to go overboard by paying for expensive matting and portfolios. Make sure your presentation is clean, neat and orderly, and that you've cropped and matted with care. That's all you need to do.

***What does a portfolio look like?***

A portfolio is a container for your work. It can be as simple as a sheet of cardboard neatly cut and folded into a V. You can buy black portfolio cases at art stores, but they are expensive and are not required for this audition. Your portfolio only needs to keep your work together, help keep it laid out flat for viewing, and show that you took care in your assembly and presentation of your art. 3-D work that doesn't fit into your portfolio (clay, plasticine, wire sculptures, masks, etc.) can be transported in a box.



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***Where can I go to get help/to prepare?***

You can take classes and workshops to improve your technical skills, background knowledge of art, and explore new media. We have several galleries and studios locally that offer these classes. Look at The Button Factory, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Globe Studio, and local art galleries (KWAG, Canadian Clay & Glass) to see what's offered.

There are portfolio workshops in the community, but typically they target students preparing for college and university visual arts programs

It is not necessary to take extra classes in order to have a successful audition, but doing so demonstrates your interest in developing as a visual artist.

***What do I need to do to have a successful audition?***

Put your best work into your portfolio, presented neatly. Make sure the required pieces are included. Complete all of the written Portfolio Description Sheets required. Above all, be prepared to try your best, take suggestions, and show us that you have the potential to be an IAP Visual Arts Major.

***Can I bring more than one sketchbook?***

For sure!

***What if that means I have more than 10 pieces?***

No problem! But remember, we wish to see quality and variety. One or two examples of media types are sufficient. We don't need to see 5 examples of the similar things to see that you get it!

***Can my sketchbook count as one of my 8 - 10 pieces?***

Yes! Please remember to include process work (planning, rough sketches, brainstorming, etc.) for the required pieces in your sketchbook.

***Can I show a video/animation?***

Yes. But, please let the Arts Registrar know so we can have equipment ready. Please be sure that you export your file to something that will play on a computer (mp4, .avi, .mov). Also, make sure your media presentations are not too long. We have a lot of portfolios to peruse.

***What happens if my teacher has my artwork?***

That is a lovely compliment, but it is your work, so you can ask for it back for the audition. You can return it to them after the audition is finished.

***My art class in school isn't until the next term-what can I do to get pieces together?***

Draw objects from life (whatever is in front of you). Go outside and draw or paint a landscape with coloured pencils or watercolours. Experiment with different techniques. Watch YouTube videos and try new media. Have fun creating.



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**Do I need to bring art materials to the class?**

Nope! We will have all the materials that you will need.

**I'm nervous! What do I do!**

We understand and that's normal! You've worked hard to develop your skills and assemble your work. We assess potential and want to see that you are a 'good fit' for the program. You are not 'competing' for a spot. Relax and try your best!