FACULTY MENTOR INFORMATION

WHAT IS VADS?

Mizzou undergraduate students of all majors are invited to submit their expressive art, applied design and any creative visual work for presentation in the 2024 Visual Art & Design Showcase. Students who are selected will discuss their work with guest jury members, gain experience in showcasing their work, and compete for professional development funds and other awards.

To be considered, the student is required to have received some mentorship from an MU faculty member during the creative process.

WHAT IS THE VADS TIMELINE?

FEBRUARY 28  Applications Due (by 10 am)
MARCH 15     Selected Students Notified
MARCH 19-20   Student Consultations at Columbia Art League
MARCH 23-30   Spring Break
APRIL 3-4     Students meet w/ Jurors via Zoom
APRIL 6       Installation of Selected Projects in the Columbia Art League’s Betty Art Robbins Gallery
APRIL 8       Films screened at local theater (TBA)
APRIL 12      Reception for the 2024 VADS at the Columbia Art League
APRIL 20      De-installation of Projects in Columbia Art League

WHAT KIND OF WORK IS SHOWN AT VADS?

To help organize and diversify the Showcase, projects will be selected in the following categories: video; photography; art; interior design and architectural studies; textile and apparel management; strategic communications and graphic design; theatre; and an open category. The open category includes floral and landscape design and other projects that don’t fit into the other categories. The most important part is that all projects must have a visual element central to the work.

WHAT DOES “FACULTY MENTORED PROJECT” MEAN?

A mentored project is one that in which the student has sought advice or received consultation from an appropriate Mizzou faculty member. It does not mean the project had to be produced for a class. If the student has put together a project outside of a course, but has gone to an instructor to get feedback on it, THAT is a mentored project!

Students may apply on their own, mentors do not need to nominate students.
AS A MENTOR, HOW MAY I ASSIST THE STUDENT? WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT TO DO?

During the creation process:
- Provide feedback on the project/art prior to completion.

During the submission process:
- Provide feedback on and/or assist with drafting the Artist Statement. This will be used for selection into the Showcase, shared with guest jury members, and be made available to the public.
- Provide feedback on the project title.
- Assist in selecting the images to submit with the application.

If your mentee is selected for 2024 VADS:
- Develop talking points with the student for the guest jury evaluation (which will be via Zoom).
- Review the experience with the student after the Showcase.
- Complete a short survey to help improve the Visual Art & Design Showcase for future years.
- Mentors of Showcase awardees will work with the student to maximize the educational opportunity of the award and facilitate follow-up communication between the student and committee.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

Information sessions and workshops will help answer all the questions students have about VADS. Information sessions will be held several times during the fall semester, and again in January, will cover general information about the event and the application process.

- OCT. 26 @ 1 P.M.
- NOV. 29 @ 11 A.M.
- Other sessions may be added so check out the VADS website or visit MU Engage website for more information.

We will be hosting workshops to assist with specific parts of the VADS application process. Learn more about the times and topics at undergradresearch.missouri.edu/events. These dates are yet to be determined:

- “HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH YOUR ART”
- “HOW TO WRITE AN ARTIST STATEMENT”
- “CREATING AN ARTIST STATEMENT VIDEO”

The Office of Undergraduate Research is available to meet with students individually to discuss their project and any questions they may have. Students can contact them at muresearchvad@missouri.edu or MU Connect to set up an appointment.

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Art: Deborah Huelsbergen, Joe Johnson, Ric Wilson
Architectural Studies: Debora Verniz
Digital Storytelling: Desireé Moore, Christian Rozier, Katina Bitsicas
Journalism: Andrea Heiss, Kat Duncan
Plant Sciences: Lesleighan Cravens
Theatre: Marc Vital
Textile & Apparel Management: Nicole Johnston
Open: Linda Blockus

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