

CREATE YOUR FUTURE



NATIONAL
ART
SCHOOL

PORTFOLIO INFO SESSION



ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The National Art School acknowledges the Gadigal peoples of the Eora nations, the traditional owners on whose lands, water and skies we meet and share. We pay our respects to all Gadigal elders, past and present, and celebrate the diversity, history and creativity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Admissions to NAS are based on Interview and Portfolio.

Philosophy of intake – we are looking for talented people with a strong commitment to their individual artistic development. We do not rely on ATAR.

Applications can be made via the University Admissions Centre at uac.edu.au.

Contact our Future Students team at admissions@nas.edu.au if you need any assistance.



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THE INTERVIEW

As part of the Application process, those meeting the entry criteria will be invited to an Interview which includes an assessment of your portfolio.

The interview takes place at NAS with two academic faculty members.

Online interviews are available for applicants who live outside of Sydney or have accessibility requirements.

15 - 20 minutes duration.

This is a conversation about you and your portfolio intended to establish whether NAS is the right fit for you.



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INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

In addition to looking at your portfolio, we will ask you questions about:

- The artists that interest or inspire you
- Galleries or exhibitions you have attended recently
- Your broader creative interests such as books, film, theatre, dance, etc
- What you hope to get out of your studies
- How you imagine yourself as an artist or a creative professional

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INTERVIEW PREPARATION

To prepare:

- Go to galleries near you and take a note of the impressions the artworks made on you
- Reflect on the artists who inspire or intrigue you (please remember their names)
- Familiarise yourself with the BFA course structure
- Think of questions you might like to ask about what it's like to be a NAS student



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THE PERSONAL STATEMENT

Written responses to a series of prompts that communicate your interest in NAS, your cultural awareness, and your artistic practice.

This will be read by the panel prior to your interview.

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THE PERSONAL STATEMENT

It should outline:

- Why you are interested in studying at NAS
- What you hope to achieve from studying at NAS
- Exhibitions you have seen or participated in during the past 12 months
- Your other cultural interests e.g. films, theatre, music, literature
- Your current art practice and interests



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THE PERSONAL STATEMENT

The statement

- Must be written by you
- Should be clearly written, with points supported by evidence or examples
- May mention scholarships, awards, acknowledgements of success
- Should demonstrate English language competence and good written communication skills
- Be 500-1000 words in length



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THE PORTFOLIO

A selection of 12 recent artworks made by you that demonstrate your current artistic practice

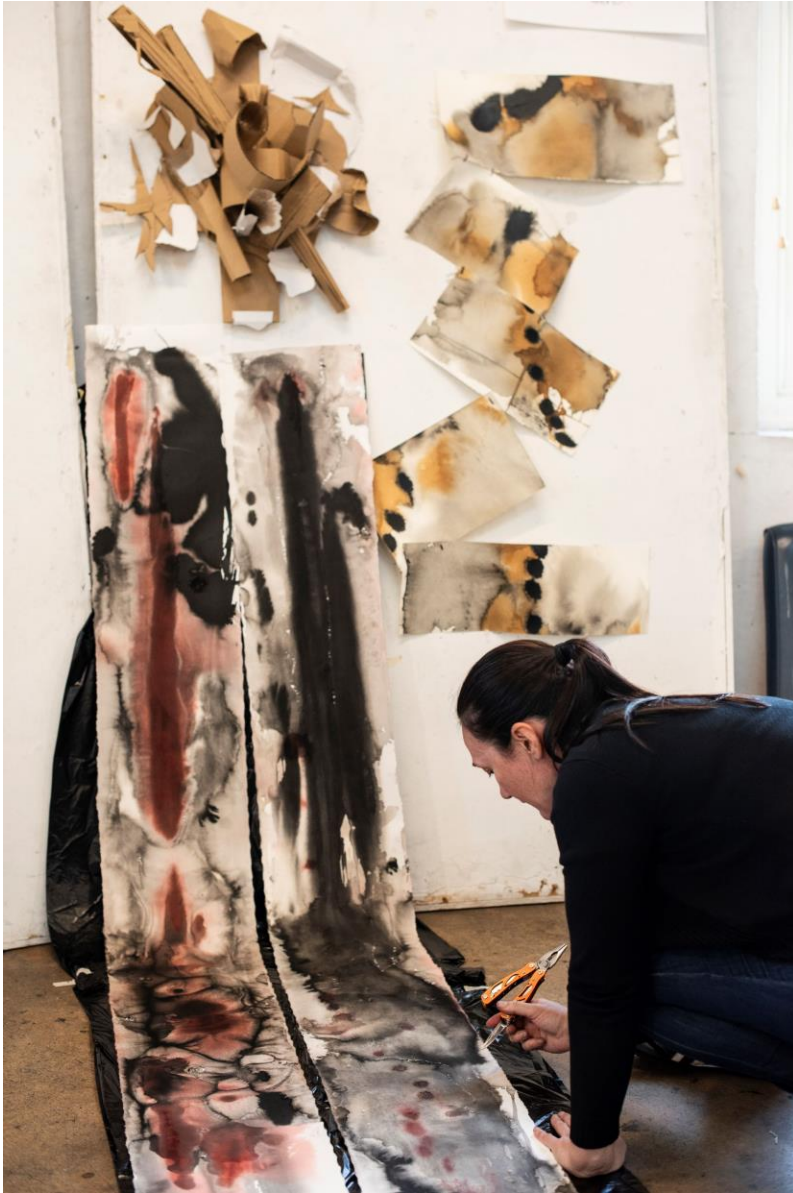
- Recent school leavers should include their HSC body of work
- Must contain at least two drawings (in any media)
- Where possible, should contain the artworks themselves, rather than documentation
- Can include supporting material, such as process diaries, sketchbooks, and maquettes
- Should include both resolved and exploratory work



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THE PORTFOLIO

We are looking for:

- Sustained development of a theme or concept
- Experimentation in a variety of different media
- Artistic potential rather than perfection
- Willingness to explore processes and ideas
- Initiative and creative exploration beyond formal educational requirements

Choose your strongest work, the pieces that best represent your artistic interests and processes, which you are prepared to discuss with the panelists.

You will need to explain the subject matter or concepts informing your work as well as your processes, formal choices, and influences.

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PORTFOLIO PRESENTATION

- Works on paper and photo documentation (images of work too big to bring in) should be presented in a binder or book
- Make sure photo documentation is of a good standard and image resolution is adequate
- Caption photo documentation with the artwork's title, year of completion, materials, and dimensions
- Videos, stills, or digital images can be presented on a laptop or tablet



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SELF-ASSESSING YOUR PORTFOLIO

Do all the works contribute something? Do they convey your creativity, abilities, and commitment?

Lots of resolved work, but no experimentation? Start a sketchbook, take some photos, or try collage

Lots of experimental work, but nothing resolved? Extend a single drawing, photograph, or 3D object into a series, or work up a sketch or initial idea into a larger, more developed work in a different medium

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THE DRAWINGS

Draw from direct observation and work on strengthening the connection between your mind, your senses, and your body.

Prioritise objects, scenes, and people that you can see or encounter yourself. This is harder and more rewarding than drawing photographs

Develop a drawing practice

- Use a sketchbook to make drawings of the things around you as you travel around or wait for people
- Create your own still life compositions of objects that are important to you
- Draw yourself using a mirror or friends, family members, and pets
- Try pencil, charcoal, ink, pastel



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PORTFOLIO REVIEW & QUESTIONS

Get in line to discuss your portfolio with an academic.

Have questions about admission? Chat to the Student Services team.

GET IN TOUCH!

E-mail admissions@nas.edu.au **Phone** +61 2 9339 8744