ART

What can I do with this major?

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
Art Museums/Galleries Education Administration Curatorial Conservation Registrar Collections Management Sales Publications Development Public Relations Exhibit Design/Preparation Archivist Tour Guides/Docent	Government or private museums Local historical societies Galleries	-Intern or volunteer in an art museum. -Develop strength in art history areas. -Enhance computer skills. -Earn a business minor. -Acquire strong skills in research, fund-raising, speaking, and writing. -Earn an advanced degree in an academic discipline or museum studies for greater career opportunities. -Each specialty has varying qualifications and required training. -Develop good interpersonal skills, including the ability to work well on teams. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
Fine Arts	Self-employed Shared studios Historic sites School/Community programs	-Prepare a strong portfolio. -Participate in juried shows. -Secure guild membership. -Consider developing a source of supplemental income. -Learn to network and make contacts. -Develop strong skills in area of interest. -Obtain experience through apprenticeships, internships, or volunteering. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
Education Studio Art Fine Arts Art History	Art schools Public and private schools (k-12) Colleges and Universities Adult and community programs Libraries Museums Alternative schools Group Homes	-Obtain certification for public school teaching. -Graduate degree usually required for postsecondary teaching. -Develop a specialty area. -Work or volunteer as a tutor, camp counselor, Big Brother/Sister, or after-school program counselor. -Become a member of art clubs. -Obtain substitute teaching experience. -Develop strength in art history areas. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Art Therapy	Hospitals, nursing homes Mental health facilities Rehabilitation centers Nonprofit organizations	-Requires specialized training and certification, usually a master's degree in art therapy. -Supplement curriculum with psychology, social work, or counseling courses. -Gain experience working with diverse populations. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
Fashion, Textile, Interior Design	Pattern companies Apparel manufacturers/textile mills Interior design departments Commercial/residential design firms Self-employment	-Prepare a strong portfolio. -Complete an internship in a production firm. -Create and fit costumes for stage productions. -Enter design ideas in magazine contests. -Become a student member of professional organization(s). -Research requirements for entering these fields. Some may require specialized training or additional degrees. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
Art Sales	Galleries/Museums Auction houses Specialty stores	-Gain sales experience. -Obtain a business minor. -Develop computer skills. -Establish contacts by attending shows. -Volunteer in museums, membership drives, and community outreach programs. -Serve as a student assistant in a university gallery. -Develop strong interpersonal and communication skills. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
Retail Buying Store Management Display Design Fashion Coordination Custom Framing	Retail stores, including department, grocery, drug, specialty, and variety chains	-Gain sales experience. -Enhance curriculum with business courses. -Obtain summer, part-time, or internship positions in retail. -Secure leadership in campus organizations. -Serve as treasurer or financial officer of an organization. -Obtain a sales position with the yearbook or campus newspaper. -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

General Information:

A bachelor's degree is valuable for entry-level positions, but an advanced degree is usually necessary to attain competitive, upper-level positions.
-An art degree can and should be tailored to areas of specialization.
-Save artwork for a strong portfolio - too much is better than too little.
-Be prepared to relocate to the larger markets of metropolitan areas where more opportunities exist.
-Join art related professional and student organizations.
-Volunteer with fundraising efforts for the arts.
-Gain valuable experience through volunteering, internships, part-time and summer jobs, and apprenticeships.
-Conduct informational interviews with professionals in areas of interest to learn more about opportunities and strategies for these areas.
-Learn to network.
-Be prepared to begin career in entry-level positions.
-Pair an art degree with other career interests to increase opportunities and provide supplemental income.
-Develop skills in business management, computers, marketing, and other related areas to increase marketability.
-A career in the arts takes dedication, patience, flexibility, talent, and some luck.
-For more information on your major visit: http://www.onetonline.org/

Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. (1992, Revised 1999, Revised 2004)
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