



EducationUSA Canada Spotlights

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

in Chicago, IL

Founded in 1866, [The School of the Art Institute of Chicago \(SAIC\)](#) is one of the most historically significant accredited independent schools of art and design in the world. SAIC is ranked among the top ten global art and design schools by QS World University Rankings; was named “the most influential art college in the United States” by Columbia University’s National Arts Journalism survey; and is ranked among the top four graduate fine arts programs in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. SAIC is distinct in providing an interdisciplinary curriculum, cutting-edge facilities, renowned faculty, exceptional resources including the [Art Institute of Chicago](#), and the necessary freedom to develop as artists, designers and scholars. SAIC students translate



the most complex ideas into tangible forms—paintings, sculptures, films, performances, books, installations, inventions, buildings, community projects, and, more often than not, a combination of the above. Few schools in the United States provide such a broad range of possibilities. SAIC offers 5 [undergraduate degrees](#), and 29 [areas of study](#). No matter what degree you choose, you





will have the creative freedom to explore and customize your education across [departments](#). You won't declare a major, and will enjoy freedom to explore without boundaries in order to realize your creative vision. Bring your work to life by starting with an idea and choose from a range of media that best fulfills your vision—not the other way around. You will be encouraged to experiment whether you remain in a single discipline or move

across departments to achieve your goals. SAIC is located in the heart of Chicago's "Loop," surrounded by museums, theaters, galleries, and cultural attractions. For artists, Chicago is irresistible: a city of unparalleled architecture and innovative public art, world-class museums and galleries, and vibrant communities of working artists, designers, writers, and thinkers. Many students spend their first year in SAIC's [residence halls](#), loft-style apartments just minutes away from classes and close to almost all the major cultural attractions of the city. SAIC's population is 33% international with 67 countries represented on campus. The [Office of International Affairs](#) is highly experienced in supporting the needs and interests of students from diverse cultural backgrounds. A small



student-to-faculty ratio—11 to 1—ensures you will receive individual attention. Extensive exhibition opportunities provide real-world experience as a practicing artist, and a world-renowned [internship program](#) and OPT opportunities prepare students for life after art school.

