

# CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



School of the Art Institute  
of Chicago

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CAREER AND  
PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE

Career and Professional Experience (CAPX) prepares students and alums through career education and connects them to diverse experiences to build sustainable, creative lives.

POST-GRAD OUTCOMES

**UPON GRADUATION, 75 PERCENT OF THE CLASS OF 2020 IS EMPLOYED OR PURSUING A POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION.\***

*\*This percentage is based upon survey respondents.*

**EMPLOYERS**

The Art Institute of Chicago, Tory Burch, Evanston Art Center, Zora Digital, Ford Motor Company, Koz Susani Design, Inc. Leo Burnett, AmeriCorps, Christie's, Illumination Studios, Chicago Public Schools, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Ana Luisa, Dana Major Art Studio, The Field Museum, The Research House for Asian Art, Lillstreet Art Center, Burberry, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, ZPD+A Architects, Museum of Contemporary Art - Chicago, and many more.

**TOP INDUSTRIES**

Architecture/Urban Planning, Arts and Entertainment, Design, Education, Fashion and Textile, Marketing and Advertising, Museums and Libraries, Nonprofit/Philanthropy

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, RISD, Northwestern University, The New School, New York University, University of Southern California, Royal College of Art, University of the Arts, London, University of Oxford

**JOBS**

Animator, Architect, Art Instructor, Artist, Assistant Art Buyer, Cinematographer, Collections Management Assistant, Community Manager, Costume Designer, Creative Director, Curator, Designer, Editor, Exhibition Manager, Furniture Maker, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Junior Designer, Operations Specialist, Overseas Advertising Producer, Photographer, Product Designer, Social Media Associate, UX Designer, and many more.

*"SAIC's Art Education program prepared me for my first career as a high school art teacher, which I loved for nine years. When I was ready for a career change, CAPX was there with free support that helped me grow into a self-employed practicing textile artist. I'm forever grateful."*

**HEIDI PARKES (BFA 2005)**

# STUDENTS

## We Are Preparers and Connectors

CAPX is your home for career education. We offer a wide range of programming to assist you in developing the skills, experience, knowledge, and confidence you need to navigate your creative future.

We can help you to:

- Connect with job and internship opportunities posted specifically for SAIC students and alums through Handshake
- Prepare and refine résumés, proposals, cover letters, artist's statements, and portfolios
- Discover your personal strengths through assessments
- Pursue exhibition, residency, fellowship, and funding opportunities
- Learn about contemporary practices in emerging creative industries, freelancing, and self-employment
- Network with SAIC alums and professionals

## PREPARE

### ADVISING

Our career, faculty, and student peer advisors provide personalized coaching sessions to help develop rewarding career paths. **CAPX works with all degree-seeking undergraduate students, graduate students, and alums at all professional levels** and tailors our coaching to serve their individual needs, identifying their strengths and values.

#### Undergraduate Students

CAPX provides career advising, programming, resources, and professional opportunities for undergraduate students from their first year through graduation and beyond.

#### Graduate Students

We offer career advising and facilitate workshops for graduate students on preparing to apply for college teaching positions, writing grant proposals, and more.

#### Transfer Students

CAPX helps transfer students gain experience and prepares them for their creative lives after graduation. Our advisors provide guidance based on each student's unique experiences and future goals.

#### International Students

CAPX provides career education and, in partnership with International Affairs, helps students navigate government regulations.

### CAREER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

CAPX collaborates with departments across SAIC, faculty, employers, and alums to offer a range of programs including practical workshops, panels, and classroom presentations focused on developing professional skills and strategies to prepare students for life after graduation.

#### Big Interview

Get comfortable having a conversation about your practice with professionals. A no-stress virtual mock interview platform for all experience levels.

#### Strengths Assessment

The CliftonStrengths© assessment discovers dominant talents that can be incorporated to internship and job search strategies and career ventures.

#### GoinGlobal

GoinGlobal is a one-stop resource to help fast track job and internship searches and cultural insights locally, nationally, and internationally.

#### Art World Learning: Financial Health

You have the right to financial empowerment! A virtual platform that brings financial education to artists, designers, and cultural producers.



SAIC alums participate in Career Education Programs and Expert Exchange. Left: Jon Veal, co-founder of alt\_ Right: Sarah Rabeda, concept engineer for footwear at Nike.

CONNECT

We connect students with alums and professional networks; assist them with developing professional portfolios and an online presence; and help them apply for internships, jobs, and other professional opportunities.

**Handshake**

Handshake is an innovative college-to-career platform that's home to all CAPX-approved, for-credit internships; full-time, part-time, and freelance jobs; volunteer or contract positions; and campus jobs. Students and alums can also use Handshake to schedule advising appointments and register for events.

**Expert Exchange**

Held every week during the fall and spring semesters and throughout the summer, Expert Exchange offers students and alums the opportunity to consult with creative professionals and business leaders about careers in art and design. Expert Exchange is virtual, allowing experts from around the world to meet with SAIC students and alums.

**Jobs and Internships**

CAPX works closely with employers at the forefront of creative industries to provide career and internship opportunities for students and alums. Over the years, we've partnered with more than 2,000 local, national, and international employers and internship providers.

**SAIC Internship and Job Expo**

Our annual flagship program brings together 60 employers from the Chicago area and beyond. Students and alums connect with leading companies and organizations to explore job and internship opportunities.

Employers we've partnered with include Walt Disney Animation Studios, EXPO Chicago, Gensler, Goodman Theatre, Marvel Entertainment, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Proenza Schouler, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Wix Design Playground, and many more.

*"I left so excited about the possibilities after graduation. So happy to know this wonderful resource [CAPX] is available to me from here on out."*

**ANDREA HERRICK (MFA 2021)**

# INTERNSHIPS

Our internship providers give students opportunities in Chicago, from coast-to-coast, and around the world. CAPX internship providers include artists' studios, design firms, publishing houses, museums, galleries, architecture firms, tech startups, gaming and software developers, social service and community organizations, fashion houses, and more. Recent internship sites include Art Institute of Chicago, DuSable Museum of African-American History, Experimental Sound Studio, Field Museum, Gensler, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Leo Burnett, Leslie Hindman Auctioneers, Museum of Contemporary Art, NBC Universal, and Pivot Design.

*“This internship was great! It was better than I could have ever imagined, and I learned so much, improved my research and public speaking skills, and was able to contribute to the museum in meaningful ways.”*

**STUDENT INTERN AT THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF SURGICAL SCIENCE**

## INTERNSHIP COURSE CREDIT

Students can earn credit for their internships by enrolling in one of the following courses:

### **Professional Practice: Internship as Professional Experience 3900**

Open to juniors and seniors

Offered during fall and spring semesters

Credits, 3.0

Fulfills professional practice, studio, off-campus requirements

### **CAPX Internship 4001**

Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

Offered during fall, winter, spring, and summer semesters

Credits, 3.0 or 1.5

Winter 1.5 credits only

Fulfills studio and off-campus requirements

### **CAPX Internship 5001**

Open to graduate students

Offered during fall, winter, spring, and summer semesters

Credits, 3.0 or 1.5

Winter 1.5 credits only

## SAIC PARENTS COUNCIL INTERNSHIP FUND

Thanks to the generous support of the SAIC Parent and Family Council and individual and corporate donations to the Chicago Makers Internship Fund, students with financial need who complete unpaid, underpaid, or high-cost internships receive a \$2,500 stipend. Students apply for the award by submitting their resume and an essay that describes how their internship aligns with SAIC's core values and will help prepare them for their life after art school.



Left: Sharanya Khemka, digital design intern at Pivot Design. Right: Holly Rauch Brinker, fashion intern at Fashion Bar

# For More Information

## CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CAPX)

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<http://saic.joinhandshake.com>



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