Department of Exhibitions and Exhibitions Studies

2021 Graduate Thesis Presentation Information

Registration deadline: November 29, 2020 (by midnight)

Register via Google Survey Form, November 10 - 29
Link will be posted at saic.edu/exhibitions

2021 FVNMAS Festival
2021 IMPACT Performance Festival
2021 Graduate Exhibition

See details below for further information about registering to participate in a Graduate thesis presentation.

Eligibility FAQ

Who is eligible to participate in a graduate thesis presentation?
MFA, MFA in Writing, MArch, and MDes students graduating in Fall 2020, Winter 2021, Spring 2021, or have 6 or fewer credits to complete in Summer 2021.

What are the presentation requirements for my degree?
MFA in Studio and MDes in Fashion, Body, and Garment students completing their degrees are required to present a final project in either the FVNMAS Festival, IMPACT Performance Festival, or Graduate Exhibition to fulfill their thesis requirement. As an alternative, a presentation in a public venue outside of SAIC may also fulfill this thesis requirement with prior approval from the Dean of Graduate Studies. Students are not permitted to participate in more than one of these presentation options.

MArch, MArch/IA, and MDes Designed Objects students completing their degrees are required to present a final project in the Graduate Exhibition in order to complete their thesis requirement.
MFA in Writing students are NOT required to present a final project in the FVNMAS Festival, IMPACT Performance Festival, or Graduate Exhibition to complete their thesis requirement -- these presentations are optional for MFAW students. However, any MFAW student wishing to participate in the Graduate Exhibition or Time Arts events are required to complete at least 6 studio credits by the end of the third semester AND to advise with a studio faculty member in their final semester.

How will my eligibility be confirmed?
Eligibility to participate will be subject to a credit check through the SAIC Registrar’s Office. We highly recommend that you check your credit status with the Registrar to confirm that your transcript is accurate and that your credits are in order.

Art School Considerations
Art School Considerations Checklist
Please review important information on health, safety, and legal details and guidelines to consider when creating works for public presentation in the SAIC Galleries.
2021 Spring MFA Thesis Presentation Options

Film, Video, New Media, Animation, and Sound (FVNMAS) Festival
Online streamed festival through the Gene Siskel Film Center
May 10 - 16

FVNMAS Festival is a multi-day event featuring the work of Graduate and Undergraduate students, who are completing their degrees. This festival is coordinated by faculty from the departments of FVNMA and Sound and with the support of the Department of Exhibitions and Exhibition Studies.

Questions? Contact Trevor Martin: tmartin@saic.edu

IMPACT Performance Festival
Presented virtually as an online festival in April 2021

The IMPACT Performance Festival is a thesis event designed to support graduating students creating live-art and performance. The festival is co-coordinated by the Performance Department and the Department of Exhibitions and Exhibition Studies. This year, in light of health and safety concerns for in-person events, the festival will be presented virtually as an online festival. The SAIC Performance Space (the 012 classroom in the 280 Building) will be set up for live stream capabilities and will serve as the main hub for producing the festival. Participating artists will also have the option to live stream from an alternative location of their choice or to have a pre-recorded performance streamed as part of the festival.

Questions? Contact Lauren Steinberg: lsteinberg@saic.edu

Graduate Exhibition
SAIC Galleries, 33 E. Washington
May 3 - 19, 2021

The Graduate Exhibition is a two and a half-week exhibition featuring work by MFA, MFAW, MArch, and MDes students who are completing their degrees and meet eligibility requirements. This exhibition is coordinated by the Department of Exhibitions and Exhibition Studies.

Exhibiting artists, designers, and architects will participate in a remote space claim event on December 12 to select their exhibition space in the gallery. In the spring semester, participants will submit a proposal in order to communicate their installation plans with gallery operations staff.

Questions? Contact: grad-exhibition@artic.edu