

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



Visual and Performing Arts Highlights

- Our students learn a variety of **skills transferable to any and all careers**: critical thinking, discipline, team-building, communication, innovation, creativity, empathy, self-reflection and citizenship.
- All of our students work in state-of-the-art facilities. Our Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, the region's premier performing arts center in the Shenandoah Valley, houses **five beautiful venues specifically designed for student, faculty and guest performances**. Art exhibitions take place at a variety of galleries on campus, showcasing the work of freshmen through seasoned professionals.
- Our **students are engaged in cross-disciplinary learning**. The Madison Art Collection and the Institute for Creative Inquiry offer internships and classes of interest to a variety of majors. Partnerships include engineers working with designers and entrepreneurs.



"I really liked my small town, but I knew there was something bigger out there for me. Once I came here and realized that you can find smaller communities within JMU, it worked out perfectly."

— ALIZA MATTHEWS (CLASS OF 2023)
DANCE MAJOR

Making Your Madison Experience Unique

The Madison Experience is about giving students the ability to craft their own individual journey to success. At JMU, you can cross disciplines and take any minor or combination of minors regardless of your major, allowing you to discover new interests and create your own path.

Programs of Study

MAJORS

- Architectural Design
- Art
- Art History
- Dance
- Graphic Design
- Industrial Design
- Music
- Musical Theatre
- Theatre

MINORS

- Art
- Art History
- Book Arts
- Dance
- Jazz Studies
- Music
- Music and Human Services
- Music Industry
- Theatre

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Art Education
- Art
- Music

For details visit jmu.edu/academics



The Madison Experience

ACCESS TO FACULTY

Our professors make teaching their No. 1 priority. That's rare at a school our size. Small classes. Attention from professors. Big-school opportunities, yet a small-school feel.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

80 percent of our undergrads do research, a practicum, an internship or student teach. Many JMU students do more than one of these. These are examples of how learning happens beyond the classroom at JMU.

A GREAT VALUE

A reasonable price and a solid return on investment have long been hallmarks of the Madison Experience. Niche cited JMU #19 in its Best Value Big Colleges ranking. Superb value. Return on investment. A bright future for you.

STUDY ABROAD

More than 1200 students participate in JMU's study abroad program each year. Imagine yourself studying theater in London, art in Florence, opera in Germany or architectural design in Japan.

Overview

At JMU, our visual and performing arts feature traditional training and so much more.

Our graduates shine because they are trained as critical thinkers and problem-solvers. Students tell us that they are attracted to JMU because of our commitment to balancing a rigorous professional program of visual and performing arts study with a liberal-arts curriculum renowned for its academic excellence.

Visual and performing arts at JMU are all about expression, knowledge, creativity and the unique fulfillment that comes with a well-rounded academic adventure.

Entrepreneurial opportunities and student research projects are encouraged across all disciplines. Examples include the student-run Studio Theatre and ArtWorks gallery, student-produced music series in a local retirement community, and undergraduate research grants for cutting-edge projects.

Most majors within the College of Visual and Performing Arts have additional application requirements. These may include a portfolio review or audition, personal interview and letters of recommendation. Find details at jmu.edu/arts/admissions



jmu.edu/academics