



APPLICANT INFORMATION

ADMISSION

Applicants for admission must hold an A.B., B.A., B.S., or B.F.A. degree from an accredited college or university in the United States or a baccalaureate or equivalent degree from a college or university outside the United States. An applicant's undergraduate major need not be in art history or the studio arts; however, applicants must demonstrate that they have a broad knowledge of the history of art as well as acquaintance with the contemporary visual arts.

Applications are encouraged from advanced graduate students in the humanities and social sciences—for example, graduate students in art history or in philosophy who are interested in critical and theoretical issues in the contemporary visual arts, or students in cultural history or sociology with interests in the institutional contexts of the contemporary arts. The graduate program at the Center offers such students an unusual opportunity to study with curators, critics, and scholars who are engaged in formulating new approaches to the exhibition and interpretation of contem-

porary art. Additionally, it provides opportunities for practical engagement with the tasks of curating that can offer invaluable lessons about contemporary art and the possibilities and limitations of exhibition as a mode of interpretation—lessons that cannot be gained from academic study alone.

Applications for admission are reviewed by the Graduate Committee. The committee assesses whether a candidate has sufficient knowledge of art history and the contemporary arts to profit from the program of study at the Center and demonstrates the intellectual ability, maturity, and motivation to pursue graduate-level courses and to complete a final M.A. project. The committee also considers each candidate's promise of making a contribution to the Center's intellectual life, particularly taking into account the Center's commitments to exploring contemporary art and exhibition practices from different disciplinary perspectives and in different cultures.

Applicants for admission must submit the following materials:

- 1 A completed application form

- 2 A brief (two-page) statement describing the applicant's interests in the graduate program, previous academic preparation, relevant work experience, particular interests in contemporary art, and career plans
- 3 A brief (two- to three-page) review of a recent exhibition of contemporary art. We are especially interested in the applicant's assessment of the curatorial aspects of the exhibition—for example, how it structures and enhances the viewer's experience and understanding of the works it presents or, alternatively, how it fails to do so.
- 4 Official copies of transcripts from any undergraduate institutions and graduate programs in which the applicant has previously been enrolled
- 5 Three letters of recommendation, which must be sent by the recommenders directly to the Center for Curatorial Studies
- 6 A \$50 application fee

Applicants are not required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test; however, any applicant who has taken the GRE General Test may request that an official copy of his or her scores be sent to the Center for Curatorial Studies.

The deadline for receipt of completed applications for admission is February 1, 2008. An application is considered incomplete and cannot be acted upon until all the materials listed above are received by the Center for Curatorial Studies.

Applicants will receive notification of admission by March 31, 2008, and must announce their decision about enrolling by April 15, 2008.

International Students

In addition to the above application materials, international applicants must provide evidence of proficiency in English—for example, a score of 550 or higher on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Proficiency in English may also be established by an interview and writing samples. To receive visa documentation, international applicants must submit proof that their income from all sources will be sufficient to meet expenses for the residency period. A Certification of Finances must be completed. Evidence may come from the following sources:

- 1 An affidavit from a bank
- 2 Certification by parents or sponsors of their ability to provide the necessary funds
- 3 Certification by an employer of anticipated income

Transfer Credit

The graduate curriculum is organized to encourage ongoing discussion of curatorial issues among students of varied backgrounds and interests, and to this end, half of each student's courses are taken with his or her entering

class. Consequently, only limited transfer credits (no more than 4 credits or the equivalent of two courses) will be given for course work completed elsewhere. Requests for transfer of credit must be made when a student applies for admission and will be reviewed by the Graduate Committee. Transfer credits may be used only to meet elective course requirements. Students receiving 4 transfer credits in a single distribution area will be required to take at least one further elective in that area during their studies at the Center.

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition for the 2008–09 academic year is \$26,712. Fees include a \$100 registration fee each semester and a \$1,000 fee for exhibition expenses for the final master's degree project, which is charged in installments of \$500 each semester of a student's second year. A \$110 graduation fee is charged prior to graduation. Students who take longer than two years to complete their work toward the master's degree are charged a maintenance-of-status fee of \$500 per year.

Schedule of Payment

New students must pay a \$500 enrollment deposit by April 15, 2008. The deposit is not refundable if the student does not enroll. The enrollment deposit is credited to the student's account and refunded after the student graduates or if the student withdraws from the program at the end of the spring semester of the academic year. Tuition and fees for the academic year will be billed in two equal installments, with payments due on August 17, 2008 and January 11, 2009. Billing statements will reflect charges and financial aid awards, including all Federal Stafford Loan applications on file. Unpaid balances will be subject to a late payment fee of \$100 and finance charges of 1 percent per month (12 percent per annum). A student who has outstanding indebtedness to Bard College will not be allowed to register or reregister, receive a transcript of record, have academic credits certified, or have a degree granted.

Refunds

No refund of any fees will be made in the event that a student withdraws from the program at any time after registration except as herein specified. In all cases, the student must submit an official request for withdrawal to the Graduate Committee. The date of submission of such a request will determine the amount of refund. Students who officially withdraw before the first day of classes for the term in question will be given a full refund of all charges, less the nonrefundable tuition deposit. If the official withdrawal from the program occurs after the first day of classes in a given term, tuition is refunded as follows. If the withdrawal occurs within the first week of classes, 75 percent of tuition is refunded; within the second week, 60 percent of the tuition is refunded; within the third or fourth weeks, 30 percent of the tuition

is refunded; after four weeks, no refunds are given. Registration and student health insurance fees are not refundable.

Refunds to financial aid recipients who withdraw from the program will be affected by a reduction in the amount of grant; any institutional grant, scholarship, or fellowship will be reduced by the same percentage as indicated in the tuition refund schedule above. Refunds to federal aid (Federal Stafford Loan) recipients who withdraw will be calculated according to the federal refund policy concerning the amount of the Federal Stafford Loan to be returned to the lender. A student who is considering withdrawal may wish to confer with the Student Accounts Office and the Financial Aid Office concerning any anticipated refund and the amount of the Federal Stafford Loan that Bard College must return to the lender, since this amount will have a direct bearing on the amount of refund, if any, that the College will provide the student.

No refund is made in cases of suspension or expulsion.

FINANCIAL AID

The graduate program is able to provide limited financial assistance, in the form of scholarships and fellowships, to students whose personal financial resources are insufficient to meet the expenses of graduate study. Funds for scholarships and fellowships are limited, and awards typically will meet only a small part of a student's expenses. Students may also apply for federal loans, and those who are New York State residents may apply to the New York State Tuition Assistance Program. These loan and grant programs are briefly described below. More detailed information about applying for financial aid can be obtained from the Center for Curatorial Studies. Financial aid is administered by the Bard College Office of Financial Aid.

Eligibility for financial aid is determined each year by the demonstration of financial need. Financial need is assessed by a uniform method from financial data provided by the student on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA form should be sent to the federal processor as soon after January 1, 2008, as possible and no later than February 1, 2008. All students applying for financial aid must also complete a Financial Aid Application (see the back of this catalogue) and send it to the Center by February 1.

Copies of the FAFSA and Financial Aid Application can be obtained from the Center for Curatorial Studies. Students whose admission and financial aid applications are complete by February 1 will be notified of financial aid awards by March 31. The FAFSA form should be filed electronically at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

To be eligible for federal student aid, applicants must not be in default of repayment of federal student loans or owe refunds on federal student grants.

Awards of financial aid are made without reference to age, color, ethnic or national origin, gender, handicapping conditions, marital status, race, or sexual orientation. International students, although not eligible for financial assistance from the federal government of the United States, may qualify for aid administered by Bard College.

Center Scholarships and Fellowships

Center scholarships are awarded on the basis of need, as determined annually by the federal government and Bard College. Center fellowships are awarded on the basis of achievement and promise. Determinations of achievement and promise are made by the Graduate Committee in its review of applications for admission. Awards of scholarships and fellowships are not automatically renewed from year to year. Students must remain in good academic standing for renewal of all forms of aid and must continue to demonstrate financial need for renewal of aid based on need.

Federal Stafford Loans

Federal Stafford Loans are available as subsidized or unsubsidized loans. To qualify for a subsidized loan, the student must demonstrate financial need. The federal government pays the interest on the subsidized loan while the student is enrolled; the student begins repaying the loan principal and paying interest six months after he or she ceases to be enrolled. A student may qualify for an unsubsidized loan regardless of need. The student is responsible for paying interest on the unsubsidized loan while he or she is enrolled. Interest payments begin accruing sixty days after the loan is disbursed. As with the subsidized loan, repayment on the loan principal begins six months after the student ceases to be enrolled. Payments on interest and principal of an unsubsidized loan may be deferred, but interest will accrue and compound. The federal processor requires that a student first apply for a subsidized loan before applying for an unsubsidized loan.

A student may borrow up to \$8,500 annually through the basic Federal Stafford Loan program. A graduate student may be eligible for a supplemental, unsubsidized loan (in addition to his or her basic subsidized or unsubsidized loan) for an amount up to \$12,000 annually over and above the \$8,500 for which he or she may be eligible in the basic Stafford program, provided that the total amount of assistance does not exceed the cost of the graduate program. An origination fee of 3 percent is deducted from the proceeds of all loans and a loan warranty fee of 1 percent may be deducted.

The procedures for filing for a loan will be explained when the student is notified about eligibility.

Loans are disbursed in two equal payments, one each semester, provided all Financial Aid Office requirements have been fulfilled. Electronic disbursements are credited to a student's account when they are received. Check disbursements are sent to the Student Accounts Office; the student must sign the loan check before it can be credited to his or her account. If the check is not signed within a designated period, the Student Accounts Office is obliged to return it to the lender for cancellation. In such a case, the student becomes responsible for the entire account balance and is charged a \$100 penalty fee (for late payment and duplication of the loan disbursement procedure).

Federal GradPLUS Loans

Graduate students can now access the Federal PLUS Loan program to cover the portion of the cost of education not covered by other financial aid. This loan is guaranteed by the federal government and may be deferred while the student is enrolled at least half-time. A credit check is required. These loans are disbursed in the same way as the Federal Stafford Loan.

New York State Tuition Assistance Program

The New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) provides non-repayable grant assistance of up to \$550 to New York State residents attending a New York State school. Awards are based on the net New York State taxable income and the number of full-time college students in the family. Applications and further information about the program can be obtained from the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (NYSHESC), 99 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12255 or www.hesc.com. A student applying for a New York State TAP award must submit the FAFSA and the New York State TAP application.

MEDICAL RECORDS AND HEALTH INSURANCE

All students are required to complete a health packet prior to arrival at Bard, which includes documentation of a recent physical examination and complete immunization records. New York State law requires that all students born after January 1, 1957, provide proof of immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella. Additionally, students must be provided information about meningococcal meningitis and must either document having received the vaccine or sign a waiver declining it. For information about immunization requirements and health insurance, call the Student Health Service at 845-758-7433.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEAL PLANS

There is limited campus housing for graduate students. Apartments and houses for rent can be found near the Bard College campus, and the

Center maintains a list of real estate agents who can assist students in finding housing.

During the academic year graduate students may purchase a prepaid credit card that can be used at the Bard College dining facilities.

ACCREDITATION

The Center for Curatorial Studies program of study leading to a master of arts degree in curatorial studies is registered by the New York State Education Department, Office of Higher Education and the Professions, 89 Washington Avenue, 2 Mezzanine West, Education Building, Albany, NY 12234; 518-474-3862; website higher.ed.nysed.gov. Bard College is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the Association of American Colleges, College Entrance Examination Board, American Council of Education, Union for Experimenting Colleges and Universities, Associated Colleges of the Mid-Hudson Area, and Educational Records Bureau.

Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Bard College complies with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. This act assures students attending a postsecondary institution that they will have the right to inspect and review certain of their educational records and, by following the guidelines provided by the College, to correct inaccurate or misleading data through informal or formal hearings. It protects students' rights to privacy by limiting transfer of these records without their consent, except in specific circumstances. Students have the right to file complaints with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Office, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. College policy relating to the maintenance of student records is available on request from the Office of the Registrar.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Bard College does not discriminate in education, employment, admission, or services on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, age, religion, national origin, or handicapping conditions. This policy is consistent with state mandates and with governmental statutes and regulations, including those pursuant to Title IX of the Federal Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Questions regarding compliance with the above requirements and requests for assistance should be directed to the Vice President for Administration, Bard College, PO Box 5000, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504-5000.

Please type or print. Send the completed application form, statement of interest, exhibition review, and a check or money order, payable to Bard College, for the \$50 application fee (nonrefundable) to Graduate Admissions, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, PO Box 5000, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504-5000. **The application deadline is February 1, 2008.**

Name			
Last		First	Middle
Home address			
Street / Apt.			
City		State / Zip	Country
Phone		E-mail	
Day / Evening			
Citizenship		Country of birth	
Date of birth		Social Security number	
Month / Day / Year			
How did you hear about the CCS graduate program?			

Undergraduate and Graduate Education

List all undergraduate colleges and graduate schools attended, including locations, dates of attendance, and degrees granted.

You must request an official transcript from each undergraduate and graduate institution you have attended. The transcripts should be sent directly from the issuing institutions to the Center for Curatorial Studies.

Have you requested transcripts from all the institutions listed above? Yes No

Please indicate if your name on any of these transcripts is different from your current name:

Employment

Current occupation

Please submit a resume with your current and previous employment (past five years) and related experience.

References

List the names and addresses of three persons whom you have asked to write letters of recommendation (including one or two academic references, if possible). All your references must send their letters directly to Graduate Admissions, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, PO Box 5000, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504-5000.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

Statement of Interest

Write a brief statement, no more than two typewritten pages in length, explaining your interest in applying to the graduate program at the Center for Curatorial Studies and describing your previous academic preparation, relevant work experience, particular interests in contemporary art, and career plans.

Exhibition Review

Write a brief review, two to three typewritten pages in length, of a recent exhibition of contemporary art. We are especially interested in your assessment of curatorial aspects of the exhibition—for example, how it structures and enhances the viewer's experience and understanding of the works it presents or, alternatively, how it fails to do so.

Checklist

Application form Statement of interest Exhibition review \$50 application fee

Are you applying for financial aid? Yes No

If you are applying for financial aid, you must submit a Financial Aid Application with your application for admission. Additional information about financial aid can be obtained from the Center for Curatorial Studies and should be requested well in advance of the admissions application deadline.

Are you applying for transfer credit? Yes No

Describe, on a separate sheet, each course for which you are requesting transfer credit, including the course title as it appears on your official transcript, the level of the course, and other pertinent information, such as required readings, course assignments, and the like. If available, provide a copy of the course syllabus.

Applicants for financial aid who are U.S. citizens must complete both sides of this form and send it to Graduate Admissions, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, PO Box 5000, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504-5000. Financial aid applicants must also submit the 2008–09 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to its designated processor. The FAFSA and additional information about applying for financial aid can be obtained from the Center for Curatorial Studies. Your application for financial aid will be reviewed once all forms are on file. **Your file should be complete by February 1 to ensure that you receive the maximum aid for which you are eligible.**

Applicant Information (please print or type)

Name	_____		
	Last	First	Middle
Home address	_____		
	Street / Apt.		

	City	State / Zip	Country
Phone	_____		
	Day / Evening		
Date of birth	_____		
	Social Security number		
	Month / Day / Year		

Financial Aid Programs and Forms

I wish to apply for financial aid from the following programs:

- Center scholarship/fellowship
- Federal Stafford Loan

Date on which I submitted my 2008–09 FAFSA form _____

Please attach an explanation of extraordinary expenses or an alternative expense budget that you wish to be considered with your application for financial assistance.

Applicant Affirmations

- A I understand that I must submit a signed 2007 federal income tax return or a letter from a social services agency as verification of the income figures I am submitting on my financial aid forms.

- B I understand that this form, together with the FAFSA, will be used to establish my eligibility for federal student aid programs and that intentionally false statements or misrepresentations may subject me to a fine and/or imprisonment under the U.S. Criminal Code.

- C I affirm that I will use any money I receive under federally assisted loan programs solely for expenses related to my attendance at Bard College.

- D I certify that I do not owe a refund on any grant, am not in default on any loan, and have not borrowed in excess of the loan limits under the Title IV programs at any institution. I will use all Title IV money I receive only for expenses related to my study at Bard College.

- E I am aware that in order to continue to receive financial assistance I must maintain satisfactory progress in the course of study I am pursuing, according to the standards and practices of Bard College.

- F I certify that I am registered with the Selective Service System.

I certify that I am not required to be registered with the Selective Service because (check one):

- I am a female.
- I am on active duty in the armed services. (Note: Members of the reserves and National Guard are not considered on active duty.)
- I have not reached my 18th birthday.
- I was born before 1960.
- I am a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia or the Marshall Islands or a permanent resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Applicant's signature

Date

Applicants for financial aid who are citizens of countries other than the United States must complete this form and send it to Graduate Admissions, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, PO Box 5000, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504-5000. Financial aid applicants from countries other than the United States must also submit the Foreign Student Financial Aid Application (FSFAA) and the Foreign Student Certification of Finances to the Center for Curatorial Studies. Copies of these forms and additional information about applying for financial aid can be obtained from the Center for Curatorial Studies. Your application for financial aid will be reviewed once all forms are on file. **Your file should be complete by February 1 to ensure that you receive the maximum aid for which you are eligible.**

Applicant Information (please print or type)

Name	_____		
	Last	First	Middle
Home address	_____		
	Street / Apt.		

	City	State / Zip	Country
Phone	_____		
	Day / Evening		
Citizenship	_____		
	Country of birth		
Date of birth	_____		
	Month / Day / Year		U.S. Social Security number
			(if available)

Financial Aid Programs and Forms

I wish to apply for a Center scholarship/fellowship. Yes No

Date on which I submitted my Foreign Student Financial Aid Application (FSFAA)
and Foreign Student Certification of Finances _____

I am applying for financial aid from the following other sources:

Please attach an explanation of extraordinary expenses or an alternative expense budget that you wish to be considered with your application for financial assistance.