

Students are required to enroll in Bard's basic student health insurance plan or provide proof of other health insurance coverage. For further information about immunization requirements and health insurance, contact the Student Health Service at 845-758-7433 or healthservice@bard.edu.

ACCREDITATION

Bard College is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The courses of study leading to the bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, and bachelor of music degrees at Bard are registered by the New York State Education Department. The programs of study leading to the master of arts, master of fine arts, master of music, and master of science in environmental policy degrees and the doctor of philosophy degree in the history of the decorative arts, design, and culture at Bard are 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; phone: 518-474-3862; www.highered.nysed.gov.

Bard is also a member of the Association of American Colleges, College Entrance Examination Board, American Council on 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 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. The act 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 Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-5920. College policy relating to the maintenance of student records is available upon 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 gender, 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 VI 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.

Be advised that the provisions of this catalogue are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the student and Bard College or its officers and faculty. The College reserves the right to make changes affecting admission procedures, tuition, fees, courses of instruction, programs of study, faculty listings, academic grading policies, and general regulations. The information in this catalogue is current as of publication, but is subject to change without notice.

ADMINISTRATION

The Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts Administration

Arthur Gibbons, *Director*
Susan Tveekrem, *Managing Director*
Mark Wonsidler MFA '00, *Assistant Director*

Graduate Committee

Arthur Gibbons, *Chair*
Norton Batkin, *Dean of Graduate Studies+*
Sadie Benning MFA '97
Anselm Berrigan
Bob Bielecki
Taylor Davis MFA '98
Kenji Fujita
Jutta Koether (2010)
Ann Lauterbach
Les LeVeque
Marina Rosenfeld
Amy Sillman MFA '95
Penelope Umbrico
Stephen Westfall (on leave 2010)

+ex officio

Bard College Administration

Leon Botstein, *President*
Dimitri B. Papadimitriou, *Executive Vice President*
Michèle D. Dominy, *Vice President and Dean of the College*
Robert L. Martin, *Vice President for Academic Affairs; Director, Bard College Conservatory of Music*
James Brudvig, *Vice President for Administration*
Debra Pemstein, *Vice President for Development and Alumni/ae Affairs*
Mary Backlund, *Vice President for Student Affairs*
Norton Batkin, *Dean of Graduate Studies*
Erin Canaan, *Dean of Students*
Peter Gadsby, *Registrar*
Mary Smith, *Director of Publications*
Ginger Shore, *Consultant to Publications*
Mark Primoff, *Director of Communications*
Kevin Parker, *Controller*
Jeffrey Katz, *Dean of Information Services*
Judith Samoff, *Dean of Programs*

+ ex officio

SEMINAR

In the Seminar, students explore intersections of aesthetic, intellectual, and societal issues that confront all artists. Starting in fall 2009 the Seminar will be conducted as an online course during the Independent Study period. Each Independent Study period will include two courses, one in the fall and one in the spring. Each course will run from 6 to 8 weeks and will focus either on a close reading of a singular artist or artwork or on a more extensive or theoretical consideration. Students will access readings, videos, images, and other media files through a Bard website and will also be expected to participate in online discussions and give short responses to the topics presented. The following summer, students will meet in person in small interdisciplinary groups to further discuss the topics presented during the Seminar.

ADMISSION

Artists who seek the stimulation and challenges of an interdisciplinary environment in their pursuit of the M.F.A. degree are invited to apply for admission to the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts. Successful candidates demonstrate a desire to rigorously reevaluate their artistic practice. Applicants should also possess a strong grasp of the technical craft, historical background, and current practice of their discipline, with an interest in the equivalent vocabularies and practices of other disciplines. An undergraduate degree in the arts is not required for admission; an applicant's life experience may take the place of an undergraduate degree.

Applications for admission are accepted once per year; the deadline for the 2010 session is January 15, 2010. Applications and portfolios are reviewed and evaluated by a committee of faculty within the applicant's field. Candidates are selected from this pool and invited to come to Bard for interviews in March. Initial admission offers are made by early April; admitted students must pay a \$500 enrollment deposit in order to secure their position in the program.

Students must commence the program with the upcoming summer session, which runs from June 7 to July 30, 2010. Deferment of admission is not permitted. Admitted candidates who cannot attend the upcoming summer session must reapply to the program for consideration in a future year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Deadline: January 15, 2010

To apply for acceptance into the M.F.A. program, all required materials must be submitted by January 15, 2010. The application and most supporting materials are submitted online. **For complete application instructions and links to the online application, please refer to our website, www.bard.edu/mfa/admission/applying.**

All applicants are required to submit the following materials:

1. Completed online application form
2. \$75 application fee (payable by credit card, electronic debit, or check/money order)
3. Personal statement: 1–2 pages written by the applicant discussing his or her work and artistic goals in a personal as well as critical context
4. History of activity in the arts / C.V.: 1- to 2-page biography listing publications, exhibitions, performances, and other artistic involvement
5. Two letters of recommendation
6. Transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate schools attended for at least one academic year, regardless of whether credits were transferred to another institution or a degree was received
7. Portfolio representing a broad spectrum of work from the past three years. Work submitted may span more than one medium, but the applicant must choose one primary discipline for the application. Portfolio requirements vary for each discipline.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Film/Video Several short films and/or videos or excerpts from longer pieces, submitted on DVD. Total duration of all submissions should not exceed 30 minutes.

Music/Sound Several short audio pieces or excerpts from longer pieces and/or copies of musical scores. Total duration of all audio submissions should not exceed 30 minutes.

Painting, Photography, and Sculpture 20-25 images and/or short video files.

Writing Samples of writing(s), 15–20 pages total, with titles and dates of composition noted.

All portfolios are submitted online unless otherwise noted. For additional details and portfolio submission instructions, please refer to www.bard.edu/mfa/admission/applying.

APPLICATION POLICY

Application materials are submitted at the applicant’s own risk and expense. Although the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts takes responsible care of the work received, the program receives all materials with the understanding that it is not responsible for their accidental loss or damage from fire or any other cause while in its charge or in the course of transmission. Applicants are advised not to send unique, original materials, and to retain copies of all items submitted. **Applicants will not have their portfolios or any other application materials returned.** All application materials will be archived for two years; during this period unsuccessful applicants who wish to reapply may reuse any transcripts or letters of recommendation that remain on file.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

Because the Bard M.F.A. program relies heavily on one-to-one conversation and dynamic group discussion, it is critical that our students have an ease and familiarity with spoken English. In addition to the general requirements, international applicants for whom English is a non-native language must provide proof of one of the following:

- Earned a college degree at an English-speaking institution (official transcript required)
- Scored at least 100 on the Internet (iBT) Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
- Scored at least 250 on the computerized (CBT) TOEFL or at least 600 on the paper (PBT) test and show English-speaking proficiency (via a spoken interview in March, if selected)

If TOEFL scores are significantly lower than our requirements, the application may not be given full consideration. The test must have been taken in the past two years and a score report must be submitted directly to Bard from ETS. For more information on the TOEFL exam, go to www.ets.org/toefl/.

Students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents will apply for an F-1 visa to enter the United States for each summer session. Bard will issue an I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Nonresident (F-1) Student Status upon receipt of financial documents that prove the student has funds to cover all the costs of his or her study for the summer program: an official award letter for a fellowship, scholarship, or non-Bard grant; for personal/family support, a bank letter confirming available funds or a Certificate of Finances Form is required. Bard will issue a new I-20 for each summer session. Bard cannot issue an I-20 for the winter independent study sessions; international students are expected to leave the United States during the independent study periods.

TUITION AND FEES

| | |
|---|----------|
| Tuition <small>(per session)</small> | |
| 2010 summer session | \$12,761 |
| 2010-11 independent study | \$4,434 |
| Fees | |
| Application fee | \$75 |
| Registration fee <small>(per summer session)</small> | \$100 |
| Studio fee <small>(per summer session)</small> | \$275 |
| Refundable damage deposit <small>(per summer session)</small> | \$125 |
| Enrollment deposit | \$500 |
| Graduation fee <small>(charged at registration for the final summer in residence)</small> | \$110 |
| Summer on-campus housing <small>(for eight weeks, estimated)</small> | \$1,405 |

Students who take an official leave of absence from the program, or who take longer than three years to complete their work, are charged a maintenance-of-status fee of \$500 per year.

Schedule of Payment

A nonrefundable enrollment deposit of \$500 is due by the deadline given with the admission offer. Students intending to pay the 2010 summer session tuition and fees through Federal Stafford Loans must have a properly completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file by March 15, 2010, and must submit a copy of their 2009 income tax return by mid-May. Billing statements will reflect only charges and financial aid awards that have been approved. Students will be billed in April 2010 for the 2010 summer session. Full payment is due on or before May 21, 2010. Students will be billed in December 2010 for the 2010-11 independent study session.

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 specified herein. In no event is the enrollment deposit refundable. 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 enrollment deposit. If official withdrawal from the program occurs within the first five class days of the program, 75 percent of tuition will be refunded; all other fees, including registration, housing, and studio fees, are nonrefundable. No refunds for withdrawals will be issued after June 11, 2010. No refund is made in cases of suspension or expulsion.

FINANCIAL AID

Bard offers several types of financial aid to help offset the costs of tuition and fees. Aid is in the form of fellowships, scholarships, and federal loans; the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts does not offer teaching assistantships, work-study opportunities, or tuition waivers. All students are eligible to apply for fellowships and scholarships; only U.S. citizens and permanent residents may apply for federal loans. For financial aid purposes students are considered to be enrolled half-time during their first two years of the program and full-time for their final summer.

Fellowships

Fellowships are awarded by the Graduate Committee to new and returning students on the basis of merit or program-balancing needs. All admitted students are automatically considered for fellowships; no application is necessary. Fellowships are reviewed yearly and are not automatically renewed.

Need-based Financial Aid

A student may qualify for financial assistance in the form of scholarships or loans, depending on financial need. Financial need is assessed by a uniform method from financial data submitted by the student on the 2010-11 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the International Student Financial Aid form. Financial need is the difference between the student’s budget of expenses and the assessed ability of each student to meet those expenses. Scholarships and loans are not automatically renewed. In order to be eligible for renewal, the student must reapply every year, remain in good standing, and continue to demonstrate financial need. No student who is in default on a student loan or who owes a refund on a federal grant is eligible for financial aid.

Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to new and returning students based on a student’s demonstrated financial need. Applicants who are selected for an interview and who wish to apply for a scholarship will be instructed to submit a 2010-11 FAFSA or International Student Financial Aid form by March 15, 2010. Links to these forms are available on Bard’s financial aid website, www.bard.edu/admission/finances/financial_aid/.

Scholarship awards are made annually in early April; students then receive an award letter listing any financial aid received. Award letters must be signed and returned before financial aid awards appear on the student’s account.

Federal Stafford Loan

Students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States and who file a FAFSA are eligible to borrow through the Federal Stafford Loan program, which provides subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Eligible students may borrow up to \$8,500 annually through a Federal Stafford Loan. Eligible graduate students may also take out a supplemental, unsubsidized Stafford loan of up to \$12,000 annually in addition to the basic subsidized or unsubsidized Stafford loan awarded, provided the total amount of assistance does not exceed the graduate program’s annual cost.

The loan is subsidized when the student demonstrates financial need according to a federal formula that ascertains the difference between the budgeted educational expenses and the student’s financial strength. In those cases, the federal government pays the interest on the loan while the student is enrolled in school; repayment of the loan principal and remaining interest begins six months after the student ceases to be enrolled on at least a half-time basis.

An unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan does not require demonstration of financial need. The student begins paying interest charges on the loan while enrolled in school; repayment on the loan principal begins six months after the student ceases to be enrolled at least half-time.

Federal GradPLUS Loans

Graduate students can now access the Federal PLUS Loan Program to pay for 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.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS

The majority of M.F.A. students live in on-campus housing during the summer session. The housing fee is not included in tuition and is estimated at \$1,405 for the 2010 eight-week session. Each student receives his or her own room in an air-conditioned residence hall and shares kitchen, bathroom, and laundry facilities with other M.F.A. students. Internet and phone services are available in each room. Separate on-campus housing for families is sometimes available at a higher rate. No pets are allowed on campus.

Students may also choose to live off-campus in nearby towns. The M.F.A. office compiles a list of local rentals each spring to assist students in finding off-campus housing.

Bard College does not offer a summer meal plan, but the dining service offers a prepaid debit card (with an initial deposit of \$50). The card is accepted at the Down the Road Café in the Bertelsmann Campus Center and at Kline dining hall. Many students choose to cook their own meals in their residence hall kitchens.

MEDICAL RECORDS AND HEALTH INSURANCE

All students are required to complete, **prior to arrival at Bard**, a health packet that includes documentation of a recent physical and thorough 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 are provided information from Bard about meningococcal meningitis and must either document having received the vaccine or sign a waiver declining it.