



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

ART AWARDS (16+)

Art at Magdalen College School is vibrant, diverse and fun. All pupils are given the opportunity to discover and stimulate their creative ability and are taught in small groups by Art specialists in an atmosphere that is professional, friendly and relaxed.

The Art School is situated along the length of the top floor of the Michael Peagram Building. It consists of four studios that have floor-to-ceiling windows and skylights that give us north light for optimal observational and colour work. There are studios designed for a wide range of two and three-dimensional work. These are supported by a computer suite (with both Macs and PCs), as well as a well-equipped photographic darkroom. Our students have the very best facilities to pursue any artistic activity they wish. As well as our own library, we are supported by an excellent Art and Design collection in the school's Sir Basil Blackwell Library.



Lower School artists are welcome to join the Art Club, which meets on a weekly basis, often to undertake collaborative projects. Recently, they successfully designed and built a large piece of metal public sculpture, which is now installed in the school grounds. There is also a weekly Life Drawing class (for sixth form artists); a Darkroom and Photography Club; and annual Drawing and Photography competitions with visiting judges and preview nights. The Art Society invites a guest speaker to address pupils – recently we were delighted to host famed painter Jenny Saville to talk about her work.



Art Scholars and Exhibition-holders also have their own group, which develops higher-profile projects over the course of a year while allowing the youngest Scholars to work alongside those in the Upper Sixth. They have recently designed celebratory artwork linked to the new Sixth Form Centre, and previously designed the colourful hoardings surrounding the building site. Finally, the department is always open to serious users, from 8am to 6pm every weekday, allowing pupils to come in and work on whatever they choose during breaks and lunchtimes.

An exhibition space runs the length of the department in which we display work as it is produced; artwork is also displayed around the school site. The art year culminates in the Summer Exhibition, open to friends and family, as well as the general public as part of the Oxford Festival of the Arts. Most year groups will experience a trip or workshop in and around Oxford each year; the department also takes older pupils to New York City every other year, as well as offering European trips more occasionally.





MCS offers Art Scholarships and Exhibitions to pupils entering the Lower Fourth and Lower Sixth. A Scholarship is worth £300 per year and an Exhibition is worth £200. (Recipients are also exempt from any materials charges they might have otherwise accrued in the department).

How to apply

If a pupil would like to be considered for an award, he/she will be required to submit a digital portfolio which covers a range of processes and techniques. The digital portfolio should be no longer than 10 slides/pages, with no more than four images on each slide/page. PDFs or PPTs are fine, but please keep the overall file size to under 10MB. You may include short annotations if you wish.

Consider how to present and edit your work to show it at its best. Try to give a sense of your personality and artistic interests through this digital portfolio – personal sketchbooks would be just as good to see as finished GCSE work. Enthusiasm, imagination and technical competence will all be considered, although candidates are judged on artistic potential as well as on previous attainment.



Pupils at 16+ must send their digital portfolios to gguiney@mcsoxford.org by 8.30am on **Friday 26th November 2021**. All members of the Art Department teaching staff assess these and will select a 'short-list' of candidates who will be invited to attend the Scholarship Assessment, which is on **Friday 3rd December 2021** for 16+ candidates.