

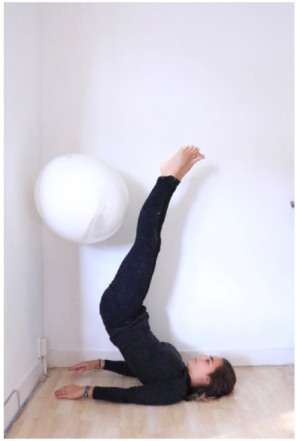
LEITH  
SCHOOL  
OF ART

FOUNDATION COURSE

24/25



A LEADING  
SCOTTISH ART  
SCHOOL IN  
EDINBURGH



## A creative community in Scotland's capital.

At Leith School of Art we are passionate about teaching art and design and empowering our students to fulfil their potential as they begin their journey to become the artists and designers of the future.

We believe in the importance of cultivating a vibrant creative community where all our students feel valued and supported as they learn new skills and grow as creative individuals.

We aim to deliver intensive, high quality teaching whilst nurturing each and every student, helping them grow in confidence, enabling them to take risks by pushing themselves to discover what they are capable of.

Our goal is to make Leith School of Art a place where our students love to be and can find a safe supportive environment to explore the world of art and design. Leith School of Art is a place where every student can feel valued and a place that gives each student the best possible start to their creative career.

### Independent School

Leith School of Art is an independent art school with charitable status. This gives us the freedom to offer more to our students in terms of course content, studio time and teaching methods.

### Teaching Staff

All of our tutors are professional practising artists and highly experienced teachers. We hold a strong belief in the importance of teaching and our tutors work closely with each student to help them develop their practical skills and creative thinking.

# Reasons To Study

### High Tutor Contact Time

We provide more studio and tutor contact time than many other institutions. The Foundation Course has six hours in the studio per day, with tutors present between 9.30am and 4.30pm. Students receive intensive teaching while they are in the School and this direct contact is additionally supported by an online learning platform enabling access to valuable course materials.

### Materials

Core materials are included in the fees. We do this to allow students the freedom to concentrate on their creative practice. Over time students learn about methods, processes and materials and what works best for their individual creative practice.

### Our Size

We are a small art school and we get to know every student individually. This means that students form close bonds with one another and a great many lifelong friendships have been forged within our studios. Being small means we are able to respond to students if they need additional support, and also assist students with their individual challenges and goals.

### Our Community

Leith School of Art is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion. We aim to create a positive space which is focussed on learning. Our students are at the heart of our community, and are the centre of what we do.

# With Us

### Support Staff

The School has a team of studio assistants and technicians who assist with technical duties, enabling tutors to focus on teaching. We also have a dedicated management and administrative team who are here to ensure the smooth running of the School. Together we provide support with any issues students might face including accommodation, finance, and welfare.

### Exhibitions

Every year the School holds exhibitions where students are invited to showcase their work. Our exhibitions are very well attended, and provide an opportunity for students to make and present a body of work. Exhibitions often open up further opportunities for students to exhibit elsewhere, to sell work and raise their profile.





# Course Content

The Foundation Course is designed to give students experience working with a wide range of creative disciplines to help them decide the direction they want to take in their artistic career and further study. The course is structured to help each student develop their individual voice and a way of working that best suits their interests and abilities.

## Term One

The first term provides students with a diagnostic learning experience enabling them to determine their particular subject specialism within art and design. The term consists of a series of weekly projects which introduces students to a different creative discipline each week.

These include:

- *Drawing from observation*
- *Printmaking*
- *Painting*
- *Book Making*
- *Illustration*
- *Textiles*
- *Sketchbook Development*
- *Photography*
- *Filmmaking*
- *Sculpture*
- *Body Adornment and Fashion*
- *Visual Communication*
- *Animation*
- *Jewellery*

The term finishes with a 3 week self-directed project led by the student, enabling them to work more intensively in the discipline of their choice.

## Term Two

The second term initially focuses on preparing a portfolio for application to further study in Higher Education. Tutors help each student build a strong portfolio that most effectively targets the courses to which they are applying.

Students undertake extended self-directed project work through which they learn new visual research skills, creative development strategies and a deeper understanding of their chosen disciplines.

## Term Three

In the final term students undertake an ambitious final major project, giving them the chance to push their skills and ideas further, and bring together their experience to create a resolved final project. Tutors work with each student on a one-to-one basis to help them develop their own creative approach, process and visual language. The term culminates with the End of Year Exhibition which provides a public platform to celebrate student work.



# Key Features

## Teaching and Learning

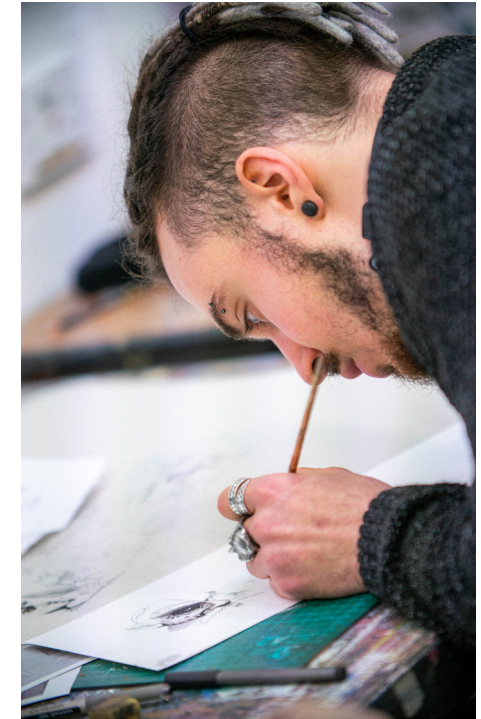
- Each teaching week consists of four full days of studio/tutor contact time (Monday - Thursday) plus an additional day of research work outside of the studio
- High tutor-to-student ratio of two tutors in each day to a maximum of 30 students
- A broad range of disciplines are introduced in weekly projects during the first term to enable students to determine their key areas of interest
- Longer projects are introduced in the second and third terms to enable students to develop their personal approach and improve their skills
- A dynamic contextual studies programme including lectures, visiting artist talks and gallery visits
- Regular ongoing review and assessment allows students to keep track of their progress
- Residential field trip to explore landscape and drawing on location.

## Our Team

The team of tutors are all experienced teachers and practicing artists and designers. They have a wide range of professional expertise in painting, illustration, visual communication, sculpture, printmaking and fashion and textiles.

## Application to Further Study

- Tutors, with longstanding experience of the UCAS application process, work closely with students to provide informed advice on further study
- Tutors work with each student to build individual portfolios tailor-made for the courses and subjects to which they are applying.



# Key Features

## Qualification

The Leith School of Art Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art & Design) award is externally examined and recognised as equivalent to completion of the first year of a Scottish University Degree.

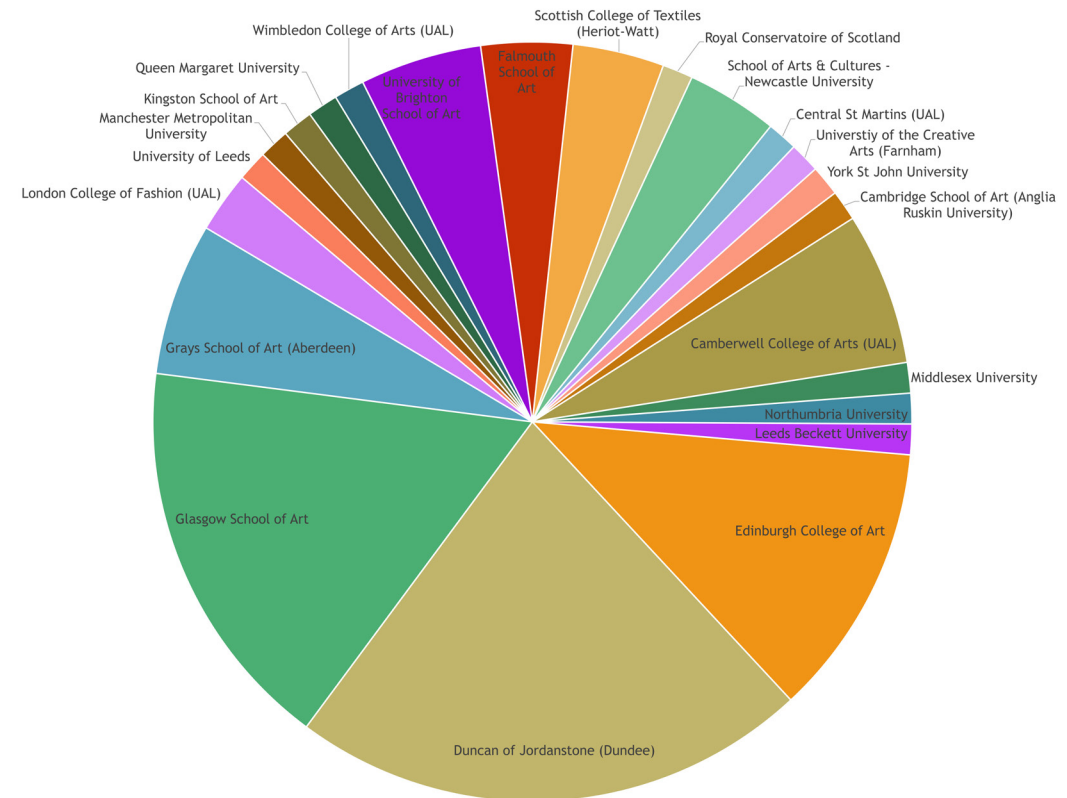
Students can apply for direct entry into second year of Scottish University courses (usually 4 years in length) and enables progression to BA (Hons) Degree Art and Design Courses in the UK (usually 3 years in length).

## Students receive:

- Advice and information about courses and disciplines offered around the UK
- Tailored support in completing their UCAS form and personal statement
- Guidance on entry qualifications and grades required for different institutions
- Extensive support around the construction of digital and physical portfolios.



# Student Destinations 2019 - 2023



## After The Foundation Course

Students on the Foundation Course progress to a wide variety of degree programmes throughout Scotland, the UK and overseas. The course has an exceptional track record and consistently high success rate for students gaining places for further study with an average of 95% of students securing a place on the degree course of their choice.

We support students through every step of their journey towards their chosen degree course. Our dedicated teaching staff have accumulated years of experience of tailoring both UCAS applications and the subsequent visual digital portfolio to a wide range of specific art courses.





# Application Process & Student Support

## Entry Requirements

There are no formal academic entry requirements for the course. Students wishing to use the Foundation Course to apply to a specific program of further study are advised to check the specific qualifications required by that institution.

## Application

To apply for the Foundation Course please visit our website, or contact the School.

[www.LeithSchoolofArt.co.uk](http://www.LeithSchoolofArt.co.uk)

All applicants must be 17 or over by the time the course commences. We are unable to process any application that does not meet this criteria.

Applicants will be invited for interview with a portfolio of recent work. Portfolios should contain 10 - 20 pieces showing a variety of recent examples of artwork which can include drawing, painting, design, 3D work and development work; for example drawing and preparation work in sketchbooks.

A personal statement is required. This is an opportunity for applicants to express their current creative interests and influences and to suggest how studying at the School will help them progress to the next step in their artistic career.

A reference is also required, ideally from someone who is familiar with the applicant and their artwork.

A personal reference can be submitted if this is not possible. The Student Registrar & Welfare Officer will provide applicants with a form to send to their referee.

Applicants are welcome to contact the School before submitting an application, or come to one of our Open Days. These are a great opportunity to speak to tutors and receive guidance on what makes a successful portfolio. Dates of our Open Days can be found on our website.

## Student Support

Leith School of Art is committed to encouraging and welcoming all those who want to learn about art and design.

We want our high quality teaching to be available to everyone. Our tutors have expertise at leading courses with a wide range of capability, and put great emphasis on encouraging and teaching each student on an individual level.

We understand that there may be times when help and advice is required. Our Student Registrar & Welfare Officer is here to listen and provide support and advice on issues including settling in, finances, accommodation, additional needs and personal safety.



# Fees and Funding

Fees cover costs of tuition, four full days in the studio, use of equipment and core materials.

## Bursaries

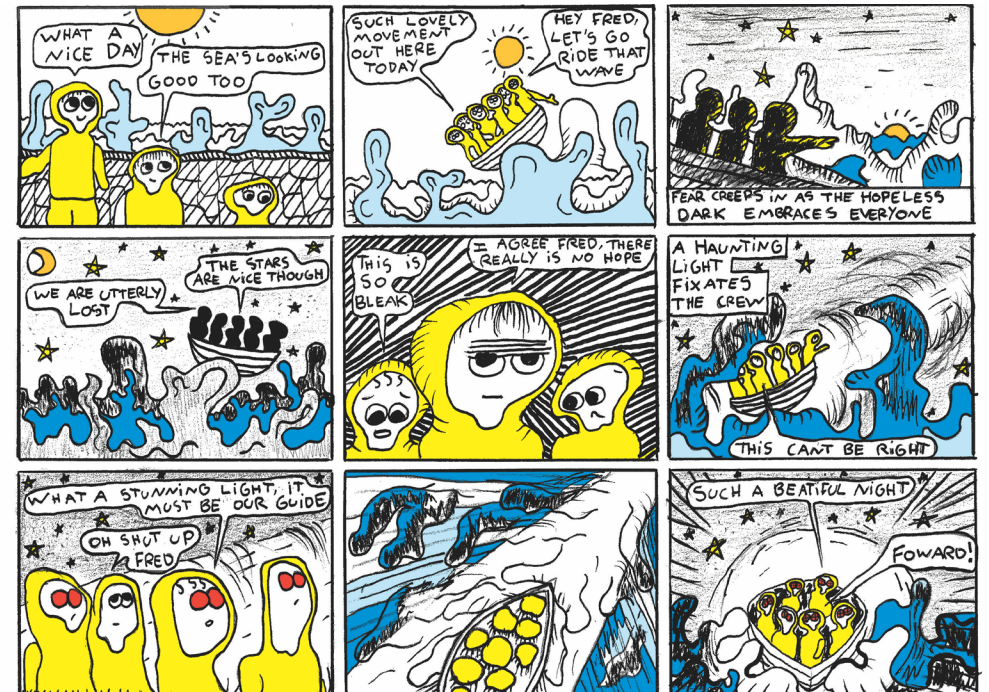
We are committed to providing access to our courses for people of all backgrounds, experience and aspiration. We believe in supporting students as much as possible, and this includes financial support. With this in mind we offer bursaries which are funded by our supporters and a wide range of trusts and foundations.

Should you wish to be considered for a bursary you must first apply and be accepted on to the Foundation Course. The maximum amount awarded is 50% of the tuition fees but can be more in exceptional circumstances.

There is no deadline for submitting your bursary application but it is advisable to complete and return at your earliest convenience as there is a limited amount of funding available each year.

## Fees

For details about our fees please refer to our website, or contact the School.





# About Leith and Edinburgh

Edinburgh is steeped in history and culture, and the old and new towns of the city have been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Edinburgh is an easy city to explore and has an excellent transport system.

There are many galleries and museums in the city, some of which are the most significant in Scotland. There are also a number of theatres, cinemas and music venues throughout the city to suit all tastes.

Artists have long been drawn to Leith for its distinct identity, rich industrial history and picturesque surroundings. Traditionally a shipping town, Leith is a vibrant and diverse community and has in recent years grown to be an exciting cultural magnet with an array of exciting new creative businesses, cafes and arts venues.

In a 2023 poll conducted by Time Out, Leith was voted number 16 of 40 in the list of the coolest neighbourhoods in the world!



North Junction Street Campus



# Booking Information

## Fees

The course fees cover professional tuition, lectures, models, use of studios and equipment, and core materials. Also included, where applicable, are the cost of entrance fees to venues visited as part of the course.

## Payment

A deposit of £250.00 is required at time of enrolment and the balance of fees is due 3 weeks prior to the start date of the course. If the enrolment is made within 3 weeks of the start date full fees are payable. In some circumstances payment can be made by instalment. Please contact the Student Registrar & Welfare Officer for further details. Payment can be made by BACS transfer, credit/debit card, in cash or by cheque. Cheques should be made payable to Leith School of Art.

## Cancellation

Leith School of Art reserves the right to cancel courses if the circumstances dictate. If this happens you may be offered a suitable alternative course, or a full refund of your deposit and fees. If you cancel more than 3 weeks before the start of the course your fees will be refunded minus the enrolment deposit. Once the course has commenced fees are non-refundable. In exceptional circumstances we may be able to offer a full or partial refund. In this instance we request that you outline the circumstances in writing to the Student Registrar & Welfare Officer.

## Accessibility

Leith School of Art welcomes students with additional support and access needs. Please contact the School for further information and to discuss your support and accessibility needs before applying.

## Personal Information

We will use the personal information that you provide to Leith School of Art:

- to administer and provide our courses to you;
- to process payment in relation to any enrolment;
- to inform you about similar courses and other services that we provide.

You may stop receiving these at any time by contacting us via the website, telephone, or in writing to the School.

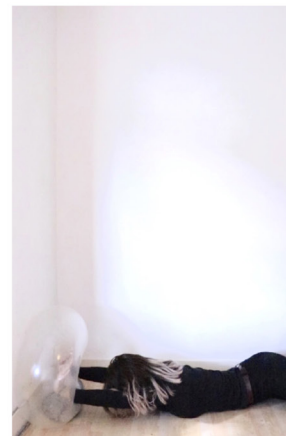
Where Leith School of Art uses third party service providers we disclose only the personal information that is necessary to deliver the service (Access Group database, Mailchimp mailing service, Worldpay secure payment provider, Everyone website developer). This information is kept secure and is not used for their own direct marketing purposes.

We will not share your personal data with any third party (other than with the third parties stated above).

You have the right to access information held about you. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

## Disclaimer

The information given in this prospectus is as far as possible accurate at the date of publication. The programme is subject to change without notice.





Drawing  
Printmaking  
Textiles  
Painting  
Sculpture  
Illustration



Sketchbook Development  
Filmmaking  
Photography  
Fashion  
Animation  
Visual Communication  
Jewellery



25 North Junction Street, Edinburgh EH6 6HW  
0131 554 5761  
Enquiries@LeithSchoolofArt.co.uk  
www.LeithSchoolofArt.co.uk

Leith School of Art is a Company Limited by Guarantee and having Charitable Status.  
Registered in Scotland at 25 North Junction Street, Edinburgh. Registered No.111089.  
Scottish Charity Number SC007456

 /LeithSchoolofArt

 @LeithArtSchool