ART SCHOLARSHIPS

SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

The Art department aims to foster independent, adventurous creativity. Specialist teachers share their practice and passions, enabling pupils to realise ambitious, personal and exciting work. Within the curriculum, pupils experience the widest range of disciplines. This includes painting, printmaking, ceramics, photography and digital imaging. You will find a gallery of our pupils' work here: www.soaksart.com.

Art Scholarships

Art scholarships are offered annually at the age of 13+ (Year 9) or 16+ (Lower Sixth). Those joining the school at 11+ (Year 7) may apply as internal candidates for the award at 13+.



Selection Criteria

A satisfactory performance in the appropriate entrance examination is a condition of an Art scholarship.

We are looking for gifted and committed young people who meet the normal academic requirements of the school, but who also demonstrate outstanding artistic ability, particularly through creativity, imagination, manipulative skills, strong powers of observation and evidence of some specialist language and concepts appropriate to the appreciation of art.

We expect holders of Art scholarships to make a significant extra-curricular commitment to their artwork. It is expected that holders of Sixth Form awards will take Art at IB Higher or Standard Level.

Art scholarships will normally be awarded for the duration of a student's school career but may, in the first instance, be offered for a certain number of years. All scholarships are reviewed annually and their continuance is dependent upon satisfactory conduct, attitude, participation and progress.

Assessment

Candidates wishing to be considered for an Art scholarship will need to develop a portfolio and Year 9 candidates will also attend an assessment session in the Sevenoaks Art department. The assessment session is a friendly process in which candidates are given choices and open tasks and are helped to show themselves in the best possible light, by having everything explained in advance.

There are three parts to the assessment for Year 9 candidates. Applicants to the Sixth Form need only to complete the first step.

1. The portfolio

We have no pre-conceived ideas about what a portfolio might contain. It would be natural to expect work made as part of normal lessons at school, but we will be especially interested in other items, whether drawings, photographs, computer art, doodles in science folder margins, craft items made at home,

or self-motivated art. The portfolio should be selected items that show the candidate's range and depth of interests, skills and knowledge. For Year 9, it is recommended to include around 20 items. Candidates for Year 9 will be asked to bring their portfolio with them on the assessment day.

Lower Sixth will be required to submit a portfolio of one unit of GCSE work or equivalent via WeTransfer to admissions@sevenoaksschool.org

Please note parts 2 and 3 are for applicants to Year 9 only unless otherwise indicated by the school.

2. A drawing test

Year 9 candidates will then be invited to spend time drawing from direct observation. A range of materials will be made available and it is expected that candidates will be able to demonstrate how they record what they see. The best preparation for this is to practise observational drawing.

3. An informal interview

During the drawing test, candidates will be invited individually for a short, informal interview with the Head of Art. They will be asked to select one piece from their portfolio and explain the ideas and motivation behind it. Candidates will be expected to be able to discuss their work and make connections with artists' work that they have studied.

Individual reports on each candidate are written and passed to the Director of Admissions, immediately after the assessment, along with recommendations for scholarships.

Further information and application details

For Year 9, all candidates who have already been offered and have accepted a place at the school will be invited to apply for an Art scholarship. This invitation is also extended to current students who joined the school in Year 7. Applications should be made no later than 1 February in Year 8, and assessments will be held in April.

The application form for 13+ can be found here:
https://www.sevenoaksschool.org/admissions-repository/year-9-co-curricular-application

For Lower Sixth, applicants will be asked to indicate their interest on the confirmation form. Applicants should send their portfolio work electronically by WeTransfer (https://wetransfer.com) to the Admissions email admissions@sevenoaksschool.org by 1 October in the year preceding the year of entry.

The application form for 16+ can be found here:
https://www.sevenoaksschool.org/admissions-repository/sixth-form-co-curricular-scholarship-application

Please direct further enquiries to our Admissions department via email to admissions@sevenoaksschool.org. We will pass these on to the Head of Art, Mr Charley Openshaw.