

Dear Prospective Student and Parent(s):

Thanks again for putting Cornish on your list of college choices. If you are like most aspiring artists the decision to major in one of the arts in college conjures up uncomfortable questions. You probably have your own (“*Am I good enough?*”) and your parents have theirs (“*How will you make a living?*”) These are both very important questions, and they are inner connected.

“Am I good enough?”

Regardless of how talented you are, you have to get better. That is true for those of you who have been playing an instrument or dancing since you were young as well as those who have just recently discovered your passion for art, or design, or the theater. Artists are not born, they are made. In Fine Art, for example, Cornish students take what are called “foundation” courses. Essentially, these courses teach the skills needed to be a visual artist. The point is that you will answer “Yes!” to the question “Am I good enough?” by your hard work, commitment, dedication, and passion. Studying what you care about is the first step to mastery, and most often to a satisfying life. Can you be good enough? It’s up to you.

“How will you make a living?”

Whether this question comes from your parents or anyone else, it is a valid, important question. And it pertains to many areas of college study such as English, history, political science, psychology, and even areas that seem ready-made for a career such as archeology or languages. The fact is that an arts college graduate is just as prepared for the life of work as many liberal arts and university graduates. In fact, recently it has become a national story that employers are seeking graduates who are creative, self-confident, team oriented, critical thinkers, and mature. All of these traits are found more often in arts graduates than anywhere else. Studies have shown that artists make more than the median income, and 65% of the artists are working directly in their art, and the other 35% are working in all areas of employment, from finance to education, from management to communications. Furthermore, artists make up a high percentage of entrepreneurs, those people with vision and ideas that they turn into careers. In short, artists are working, and they have the good fortune (or wisdom) to be doing something they love.

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The best arts education takes place at a premier arts college. A recent national study demonstrates that everyone – students, parents, teachers and professional artists – affirm this fact. Cornish is definitely one of the premier arts colleges in America, offering the gold-standard arts degrees, the BFA in Fine Art, Dance, Design, Performance Production (technical theater design), Theater and the BMus in Music. At Cornish you will get more and deeper arts classes, more arts internships, more professors who are practicing artists and more connections to the arts world. As for Seattle, it is one of the top ten cities for working artists and a rich resource for our students.

If you want to be an artist, why not go for the best? In the next few weeks you will receive the new **Cornish Viewbook**, a colorful 70 page introduction to the College. Look it over and take the next step and apply for admission. Apply by November 15th and we will waive the \$40 application fee. Be sure to use the code NOV15 to receive the waiver. We hope to hear more from you and look forward to your application for admission!

Sincerely,



Gary Craig
Vice President for Enrollment

