



## What To Expect During Your Virtual Interview

If you haven't applied yet, please do so as soon as possible! You can apply here:

<https://www.nmschoolforthearts.org/admission/apply/application/>

The interview process consists of two parts: a department orientation and an individual interview, which includes a portfolio review or an audition. Other features vary by department (and are explained below).

**NOTE CHANGE AS OF JANUARY 19, 2022:** Interviews, auditions, and portfolio reviews will be virtual for 22/23 school year applicants! After your application is received, you will be e-mailed an interview/audition/portfolio review date and time, along with a Zoom link. In order to participate, you will need to have Zoom software installed on your computer. You will need to make sure your camera, microphone, and internet connection are working before your audition. If you have any trouble accessing the internet or Zoom, please contact Fred Graham, Admissions Coordinator, at [fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org](mailto:fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org) or 505-629-9245 (mobile, accepts text messages).

### Part 1: Log in to Zoom Department Orientation with your parent or guardians

Applicants and their parents/guardians are invited to attend a 30-minute department orientation. You will meet your department chair and department panelists. This is an informal opportunity to meet the faculty and ask any questions you may have about the school, academics, and the department.

### Part 2: Master Class with applicants and department panels

At this time, parents/guardians are invited to leave the meeting. Students will remain for the department Master Classes.

Creative Writing and Literature: 1 hour total

- The applicant will participate in a 30-minute master class with panelists.

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- The class will include a discussion of characterization, setting, and imagery in short stories
- After the master class, applicants will produce a short piece of creative writing based on a prompt provided by the faculty member. We allow 30 minutes for the writing portion of this class
- Applicants will complete the writing portion on a computer

### Dance: 2 hours total

- Applicants will participate in a 1.25-hour ballet master class with panelists, followed by a 45-minute contemporary movement combination class with panelists.
- Wear form-fitting yet comfortable clothing and have water and a snack handy

### Music: No group class

### Theatre: 30 minutes total

- Applicants will participate in a 30-minute master class with panelists
- The class will include physical and vocal warm-ups, some group improvisations, and creative imagination exercises

### Visual Arts: No group class

## Part 3: Individual Interviews and Portfolio Review or Audition (AND WHAT TO PREPARE)

The interview is a two-way conversation designed to give panelists time to get to know you as a person and as an aspiring artist and to give you a clearer sense of your chosen department, the school, and the faculty. The following additional requirements are specific to each department—please review and prepare carefully.

### Creative Writing and Literature: 15 minutes total

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- *Before* attending the demonstration class and interview, applicants must provide a portfolio of writing. The portfolio should include:

7-10 pages of original writing from one or more of the following genres: poetry, fiction (short stories or a brief excerpt from a novel), play, screenplay, personal essay, academic essay, memoir, or journalism (news article or editorial). You may send a mix of writing to reach the minimum of seven pages.

*Optional:* Applicants may include 1 link to a recorded performance (for example, an original poetry reading), but this is not a requirement.

### Dance: 15 minutes total

- You will perform a solo piece you have prepared
- Your solo piece should be one-to-two (1-2) minutes in length and should demonstrate how you move best
- You can pick any style of dance

### Music: 20 minutes total

- Prepare two contrasting pieces or songs in a style of your choosing.
- You will begin your individual audition by performing the two contrasting pieces or songs for the audition panel.
- In addition to your prepared pieces, you will participate in a brief Ear Training exercise (listening to a short melody and singing or playing it back).
- Because we have moved auditions online, we are offering the option for you to pre-record your audition pieces (you may still choose to perform your pieces live over Zoom). If you choose to do this, use this google form to upload your audition videos:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a4FrF42ceAjrClK\\_RGTBB6190JseHOWsutzndfxHlk/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a4FrF42ceAjrClK_RGTBB6190JseHOWsutzndfxHlk/edit). If you choose to record in advance, please upload videos by the Tuesday before your interview!
- NOTE: A gmail account is required to use the video submission form. If you do not have a gmail account, please contact Fred Graham, Admissions Coordinator, at [fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org](mailto:fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org).

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Theatre: 15 minutes total

- Please prepare two monologues (no more than 2-minutes each)
- Monologues should vary in mood and setting
- Monologues must be from a play
- You will begin your individual audition by presenting your 2 contrasting monologues at the end of which, our panelists will ask you to do one of them again with some direction

Examples of monologues can be found in the links below:

- [The Monologuer](#) - resource to find dramatic and comedic monologues to assist you in preparing for auditions.
- [YouthPLAYS Free Monologues](#)
- [Actorama Monologue Search](#)

Visual Arts: 15 minutes total

Special Note: Because the Portfolio Review and Interview will be virtual, you will be asked to photograph and e-mail your artwork to Fred Graham, admissions coordinator, at [fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org](mailto:fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org). Instructions for how to do this will be sent to each applicant and are also noted at the end of this document.

- At your scheduled interview time, you will be asked to speak about your portfolio artwork with the Visual Arts Faculty Panel
- Panelists will ask you questions that encourage you to speak about yourself, your artwork, and your interest in Visual Arts
- You will also have time to ask us about the department and the school
- The conversation is meant to give us some time to get to know each other so that you will have a clearer sense of the Visual Arts Department
- We will gain a clearer picture of you as a person and as an aspiring artist

Visual Arts Portfolios should include the following:

5 – 20 Artworks

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- These artworks can include: Any combination of 2D (e.g. sketchbook pages, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, collage), 3D (e.g. beadwork, sculpture, ceramics) and/or 4D (time-based work e.g. video (1 minute max), animation, web/game design, coding, computer art, digital drawing/painting, 3D models, etc.) artworks from the last two years
- Include one artwork in each slide and label with the artwork's title, media, size, and year completed (see sample in portfolio template).

### Creative Upcycled 3D Sculpture

- Make a small, easy to carry, 3D sculpture from only recycled/upcycled, trash, and/or found materials that shares something about your community.
- Your 'community' is defined by you and may be real or imagined, include friends, family, local or global groups, be about where you live or wished you lived, or reflect your future dreams or much more! This is open to your interpretation and imagination.
- Be creative, inventive, expressive, and resourceful! Have fun!!
- Photograph different points of view of the completed work as well as any work in progress photos and sketches. Include these in the portfolio.

### Observational 2D Skill Value Drawing

- Complete in advance an observational still-life drawing using the video below. Include a photo of this in your portfolio.  
Prior to your interview date, there are several tasks that must be completed. Please make sure you have completed all five tasks by the Tuesday before your interview.

Special Visual Arts Portfolio Instructions for Virtual Portfolio Reviews:

1. You will create a 2D observational drawing following this instructional video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImDJBh5UJs&list=PLCB1LokufcVY09tPs2ERD8MfoiKaJvny9&index=1&t=46s>
2. You will create a 3D upcycled sculpture following this instructional video:

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<https://youtu.be/tKLe9LRHIU8>

3. You will need to take photos of your portfolio artworks and create a document. Please include both the 2D observational drawing and the 3D upcycled sculpture in your portfolio! Here is an instructional video on how to complete this task:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8hZke25Nz8&list=PLCB1LokufcVY09tPs2ERD8MfoiKaJvny9&index=4&t=121s>

4. Make a copy of this template to create your document (This is the document referred to in the video in no. 3 above):

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GGbahfKLW\\_NPOPcolr7AJ7a9HOMmk2af7Jx\\_5m4bCuU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GGbahfKLW_NPOPcolr7AJ7a9HOMmk2af7Jx_5m4bCuU/edit?usp=sharing) .

5. Use this google form to upload your portfolio document:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a4FrF42ceAjrClK\\_RGTBB6190JseHOWsutzndfxHlk/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a4FrF42ceAjrClK_RGTBB6190JseHOWsutzndfxHlk/edit). NOTE: If you do not have a gmail account, please contact Fred Graham, Admissions Coordinator, at [fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org](mailto:fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org). Please upload this document by the Tuesday before your interview!

If you have any questions, please contact our Fred Graham, at [fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org](mailto:fred.graham@nmsa-ai.org) or 505.629.9245