Visual Arts Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

**Majors:** Art (B.A., B.F.A.); Art Education: Teacher Licensure (B.S.); Design Technology (B.S.)—see separate Career Outlook for specific placement information

**Minors:** Art

**Department Website:** http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/visual_arts

**Major Highlights:**
Art is a visual response to the diversity of human experience. An educated, artistic vision includes knowledge of the history and theory of creative work, and studio experience that nurtures individual creative expression and critical thinking. The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degrees in the Department of Visual Arts prepare students as visual artists and graphic designers. The B.F.A. places a particular emphasis on studio work. The Visual Arts Bachelor of Science degree with teacher licensure prepares students for elementary/secondary classroom teaching. The Department of Visual Arts is a full partner with the Department of Industrial Technology in the Design Technology program. The Department of Visual Arts offers three exhibition spaces that present local, regional, national, and international exhibits. The gallery program also maintains permanent collections in ceramics, prints, and painting.

**Employment Areas:**
The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" reports that artists held about 221,900 jobs in 2008. About 60 percent were self-employed. Employment was distributed as follows: Art directors—84,200; Multimedia artists and animators—79,000; Fine artists, including painters, sculptors and illustrators—23,600; Craft artists—13,600; and Artists and related workers, all other—21,500. Of the artists who were not self-employed, many worked for advertising and related services, and software publishers; motion picture and video industries; specialized design services; and computer systems design and related services. Some self-employed artists offered their services to advertising agencies, design firms, publishing houses, and other businesses.

**Projected Demand for Visual Arts Majors in Minnesota:**
MnCareers reports that the outlook for fine artists and related workers is fair. There is heavy competition and an average salary of about $19.50 per hour. MnCareers reports that the outlook for graphic designers is good, although the market is very competitive, current computer and software skills are essential, and portfolio work is important. The median income is about $19.80 per hour.

**Projected Demand for Visual Arts Majors Nationwide:**
The DISCOVER guidance system reports that the nationwide demand for artists is growing moderately, with a 1% expected growth rate per year. The average starting salary reported in 2009 was $38,000 per year. The demand for teachers (art, music, drama, speech) is growing rapidly, with a 2.3% expected growth rate per year, and an average starting salary of $37,500 annually in 2009. According to the “Occupational Outlook Handbook” the median annual salary of fine artists was $42,650 in 2008.

**Placement Information For Visual Arts Graduates:**
Of the Bemidji State University visual arts B.A. graduates in 2008-2009, 66.7% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. Of the Bemidji State University 2008-2009 B.F.A. graduates, 50% were continuing their education. Of the Bemidji State University 2008-2009 B.S. art education graduates, 100% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. Of the Bemidji State University 2008-2009 B.S. design technology graduates, 52% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, furthering their education, unavailable, or had unknown status.
A Partial List of Employers Who Have Hired BSU Visual Arts Graduates:

50 Below Sales & Marketing
Affordable Image
Amphitheater School District
Anchorage School District
Arrow Printing
As Soon As Possible, Inc.
Augsburg Fortress Publishers, Inc.
Battleground Enquirer
Beard’s Framing
Bemidji State University-CRI
Bemidji State University
Big North Distributing
Billings Gazette
Boys & Girls Club
Brede Exposition Services
Cass Lake-Bena Middle School
Chase Design
Christopher & Bank Corporation
Clearbrook-Gonvick School
Color Creations
Community Tix
Compaq Computers
Convention Exhibit Services
Crosby-Ironton Schools
Cygnus Expositions
Czarnowski
Dartmouth Street Gallery
Design Concepts
Design Trust
Digi-Key
Digi-Key
DKY, Inc.
E & M Consulting, Inc.
Eagle Printing
Electronic Easel
Ellerbe Becket
Featherlite Exhibits
Featherlite Exhibits
Featherlite Exhibits
Fedex Kinkos
Fergus Falls Daily Journal
Fred Moore Ctr for Arts Middle School
Freeman Companies
GES Exposition Services
GES Exposition Services
Grand Forks Herald
Greenspring Media Group
Hampton Beach School District
Hasbro Games
Haworth Marketing & Media
Headwaters Science Center
Heritage Arts & Gifts
Heritage Exhibits
Independent School District #112
Inform, Inc.
Ingenium Product Development
Ink Spot Press
Insignia Systems, Inc.
Johnson Screens
Digital Media Artist
Graphic Designer
Art Teacher
Art Teacher
Graphic Designer
Project Coordinator
Graphic Designer
Ad Designer
Picture Framer
Industrial Training Coordinator
Talley Gallery Director
Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Arts Program Coordinator
Exhibit Designer
Art Teacher
Model Maker
Visual Communications Production Spec.
Art Teacher
Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Model Designer
Exhibit Designer
Art Teacher
Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Junior Art Director
Web Designer
Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Assistant Computer Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Exhibit / Web Designer
Project Coordinator
Lead Project Coordinator
Graphic Designer/Web Designer
Fine Arts Teacher
Corporate Designer
National Sales Designer
Exhibit Designer
Ad Designer
Web Designer
Elementary Art Teacher
Model Maker
Creative Services
Exhibit Floor Manager
Manager
Exhibit Designer
Site Supervisor Club Care
Prototype Specialist
Model Builder
Graphic Designer
Graphic Designer
Marketing Communications
Duluth, MN
Phoenix, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Anchorage, AK
Bemidji, MN
St. Louis Park, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Battle Creek, MI
Eugene, OR
Bemidji, MN
Bemidji, MN
Bemidji, MN
Billings, MT
Bemidji, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Cass Lake, MN
Skaneateles, NY
Plymouth, MN
Clearbrook, MN
Walker, MN
St. Paul, MN
Houston, TX
St Paul, MN
Crosby, MN
Burnsville, MN
Las Vegas, NV
Albuquerque, NM
Madison, WI
Hackensack, MN
Thief River Falls, MN
Thief River Falls, MN
Thief River Falls, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Chaska, MN
Bemidji, MN
St. Paul, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Edina, MN
Fergus Falls, MN
Coon Rapids, MN
Dallas, TX
Landover, MD
Los Angeles, CA
Grand Forks, ND
Minneapolis, MN
Hampton Beach, VA
East Longmeadow, MA
Minneapolis, MN
Bemidji, MN
Walker, MN
Dallas, TX
Victoria, MN
Superior, WI
Allentown, WI
Bemidji, MN
Maple Grove, MN
New Brighton, MN
A Partial List of Employers Who Have Hired BSU Visual Arts Graduates (Continued):

Kanabec Publications
Lake Country Journal Magazine
Lakeland Public Television
Lakes Entertainment
Lands End
Laporte Public School
Legacy Design Partners
Lets Get Graphic
Lime Valley Advertising
Mankato Area Public Schools
Merrill Corporation
Midwest Captions.Com
Midwest Model Makers, Inc.
Minutemen Press
MN Historical Society
Model Plus
Motorola
Multi-Images
North American Membership Group, Inc.
Northern Wire
Northome School District
Northstar Publishing
NParallel
Nuturing Wisdom Tutoring Services
Omega, Inc.
One Buck
Orbis Broadcast Group/Self-Employed
Out There Advertising
Pathfinder Technologies
Phillips-Van Heusen
Pinnacle Publishing
Pinnacle Publishing
Piper Designs
Playhouse Early Education
PSA Mags
Q-Shop
Range Printing
Red Lake Elementary School
Reed Prototype and Model
Reeds, Inc.
Ronnnow-Edison Elementary School
RPM
RPM Reed Prototype & Model
Self-Employed
Self-Employed
Self-Employed
Self-Employed
Self-Employed
Shonkwiler-Marcoux Advertising
SignPro
Sisters of Saint Francis Convent
Smurfit-Stone Container
SPC Printing
Spectrum Printing, Design & Apparel
St. Cloud Times
Standard Beverage Corporation
Star Exhibits

Ad Designer
Traffic & Operations Assistant
Electronic Publisher
Art Teacher
Junior Designer
Graphic Designer
Multi-Media Designer
Elementary Art Teacher
Graphic Designer
Model Maker
Graphic Designer
Web Designer
Model Maker
Model Building
Tutor
Multimedia Specialist
Graphic Designer
Freelance Graphic Designer
Art Director/Print & Broadcast Traf Mgr
Webmaster/Designer/Technology Manager
Graphic Designer
Web Design
Graphic Design
C.A.D.
Assistant Teacher
Web Designer
Robot Programmer
Graphic Designer
Art Teacher
Model Maker
Prototype Maker
Elementary Art Teacher
Model Maker/Computer Technician
Prototype Designer
Artist
Artist
Artist
Artist
Jewelry Design/Repair
Graphic Artist
Sales Consultant
Graphic Artist
Assistant
Graphic Specialist/Lan Coordinator
Graphic Artist
Designer
Graphic Artist
RSE Production

Mora, MN
Baxter, MN
Bemidji, MN
Minnetonka, MN
Dodgeville, WI
Laporte, MN
Minneapolis, MN
Coon Rapids, MN
Mankato, MN
Mankato, MN
St Cloud, MN
Brainerd, MN
Indianapolis, IN
Hudson, WI
St. Paul, MN
Grays Lake, IL
Plantation, FL
St. Cloud, MN
Minnetonka, MN
St. Cloud, MN
Northome, MN
International Falls, MN
Plymouth, MN
Chicago, IL
Edina, MN
Golden Valley, MN
Chicago, IL
Duluth, MN
Eden Prairie, MN
New York, NY
Bemidji, MN
Bemidji, MN
Kailua, HI
Brainerd, MN
Fargo, ND
Minneapolis, MN
Brainerd, MN
Red Lake, MN
Austin, TX
Austin, TX
Las Vegas, NV
Austin, TX
Austin, TX
Walker, MN
Willmar, MN
Seattle, WA
Becida, MN
Nevis, MN
Las Vegas, NV
Cloquet, MN
Hankinson, ND
Fargo, ND
Hibbing, MN
Little Falls, MN
St. Cloud, MN
Lenexa, KS
Brooklyn Center, MN
A Partial List of Employers Who Have Hired BSU Visual Arts Graduates (Continued):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Star Exhibits</td>
<td>Graphic Designer</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Exhibits &amp; Environments</td>
<td>Junior Designer</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Growth Industries</td>
<td>Graphic Designer</td>
<td>Winsted, MN</td>
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<td>Target Printing Services</td>
<td>Bindery Specialist</td>
<td>Brooklyn Park, MN</td>
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<td>Taylor Corporation</td>
<td>Graphic Designer</td>
<td>Mankato, MN</td>
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<td>The Exhibit Company</td>
<td>Exhibit Design</td>
<td>Ventura, CA</td>
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<td>The Freeman Companies</td>
<td>Designer</td>
<td>Alexandria, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Krazy Kilns</td>
<td>Artist/Owner</td>
<td>Crookston, MN</td>
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<td>The Trade Group</td>
<td>Design Creative</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
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<td>Trane Company</td>
<td>Digital Designer</td>
<td>St. Paul, MN</td>
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<td>Twin City Supply</td>
<td>Graphic Designer</td>
<td>St Louis Park, MN</td>
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<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Assistant Creative Director</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
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<td>USA Color Printing</td>
<td>Graphic/Web Designer</td>
<td>Bemidji, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA Color Printing</td>
<td>Art Director</td>
<td>Bemidji, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia High School</td>
<td>Art Teacher</td>
<td>Virginia, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vista Technologies</td>
<td>Prototype Developer</td>
<td>Vadnais Heights, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voyageurs High School</td>
<td>Art Teacher</td>
<td>Bemidji, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westmorelandflint</td>
<td>Graphic Designer</td>
<td>Duluth, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Sand</td>
<td>Graphic Design</td>
<td>Eagan, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodbury Bulletin</td>
<td>Graphic Designer</td>
<td>Hudson, WI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colleges and Universities Where BSU Visual Arts Graduates Have Gone to Continue Their Education:

Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN

**Note 1:** Some of the above job/career titles require advanced degrees or specialized training.

**Note 2:** Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

**Note 3:** Personal Competencies: it is also recommended that individuals be competent in a variety of communication methods, and computer skills are a must.

**Bibliography:**
- Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2006-2008. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2009)
- DISCOVER. The American Testing Program, Educational Technology Center, Hunt Valley, MD (2009)

For more information, please contact the Career Services Office in 102 Sanford Hall or call us at 218-755-2038 or toll free at 800-657-3726.