About the College

B. Stephen Carpenter II, Dean, College of Arts and Architecture

The College of Arts and Architecture at Penn State is a comprehensive arts community including academic programs in music, theatre, visual arts, art history, architecture, landscape architecture, and graphic design. The college is committed to artistic and scholarly creativity, research, and the preparation of specialized practitioners in all of the arts and design disciplines. As the administrative home of the Center for the Performing Arts, Palmer Museum of Art, Penn State Centre Stage, and Penn’s Woods Music Festival, the college serves as a premier cultural destination in central Pennsylvania, offering numerous opportunities for community engagement along with its academic programs.

Research centers at both the academic unit and college level provide opportunities for graduate students to work closely with faculty and other scholars. The College of Arts and Architecture is proud of its close-knit community where students experience the best of both worlds—small class sizes, with all the resources of a Big 10 university. It is a dynamic and vibrant place, propelled by the energy and initiative of students like you.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLLEGE (https://artsandarchitecture.psu.edu/about/)

Mission and Goals

The College of Arts and Architecture is committed to providing the highest quality training for artists, designers, scholars, teachers, and arts professionals, and to advancing research and creative activity in our disciplines. Our goals are to create transformative experiences for students; maximize visibility of the arts and design at Penn State; engage communities through research, curricula, and arts presentation; and lead in technology in the arts and design.

MORE INFORMATION (https://artsandarchitecture.psu.edu/about/strategic-plan/)

Accreditation

Our schools and programs are accredited by the top bodies in their fields, including the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB), National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and more.