School of Art Best Practices to Encourage and Honor Diversity.

Faculty and staff drawn from diverse backgrounds and minority populations – African American, Chinese American, Japanese American, Native American plus a good balance of men and women.

Curriculum engages students in coursework, discussion and research focused on understanding non Western cultures, multicultural, gender, religious and indigenous issues.

- All programs in the SOA require students to complete 5-10 credits of non-Western art history. Students have the opportunity and are encouraged to take more.
- The Art History curriculum offers 45 different courses, ranging from 100-500 level classes, dealing with artistic traditions and practices in China, Korea, Japan, India, SE Asia, many countries in Sub Saharan Africa, Oceania, Native America and the African American tradition.
- Hire visiting scholars on a regular basis to teach topics such as Contemporary Mexican Art and Photography, Islamic Art, Pre Columbian Art, Contemporary Art Outside the Western Tradition, Contemporary Chinese Women Artists, American Women Artists, Northwest Coast Salish Art, etc.
- The curricula in Metal and Fiber require students to complete a 5 credit class that incorporates discussion and research of non Western art practices. History of Textiles, History of Body Adornment.
- The curricula in VCD, Ceramics, Sculpture, and Photography all offer one or more classes that introduce students to the practice of their discipline in non Western traditions.
- Students are encourage to take and receive credit toward the satisfaction of major requirements for classes taught in American Indian Studies, Asian Languages and Literature, African American Studies, American Ethnic Studies and also Cinema Studies and Architecture history classes that focus on non Western cultures.

Sponsor inclusive events that appeal to our diverse faculty and student population. These programs are designed to develop community and highlight the shared goals and diversity of students, faculty, and staff.

- Annual SOA Open House
- Graduation Ceremony
- Scholarship Presentation Ceremony
- Visiting lecturers and scholars.
- Gallery events and exhibits.
- Student organizations and sale of student art
- Art on Loan
- First of the year welcoming event.
- Misc. academic and social events throughout the year.

Develop events, programs, and workshops that help students connect their studies at the UW with the prospect of internships, jobs, careers. Make direct connections for students with professionals working in the arts community. (All students and their families are concerned with how an undergrad degree will help them move into the working world. Students of color and first generation students are particularly concerned about this very practical issue.)

- Annual Working in the Arts: Internship, Careers, and Volunteer Opportunity Fair. Representatives from 30+ arts groups gather in Mary Gates Hall to connect with students from UW and local Community Colleges – the community representatives include groups such as Central District Forum for Ideas, Pike Place Senior Center, Ewajo Center, Power of Hope, Refugee Alliance, Freehold Theater, Wing Luke Art Museum, Seattle Asian Art Museum, etc.
• Career Week. Panels and workshops that bring a diverse cross section of professionals from the arts community to help students answer the question, “what can I do with my major in art, art history and design?’
• Monthly workshops in the School of Art that connect a diverse group of professionals with students interested in developing career goals.

Work with and encourage students to participate in community internships that connect them with disadvantaged youth, senior citizens (Hundreds of our majors have participated in these types of internships over the past 7 years).

• Pipeline
• Arts Corps
• Pike Place Senior Center
• Heritage College Program, Yakima

Examples of the types of internships we promote for our students:
• Inner Arts Corps: Making Artistic Learning Visible
  Students are paired with teaching artists in after school programs through Arts Corps - mission is to offer excellent arts education – in every discipline – to youth who do not otherwise have the opportunity.

• Inner Migrations: Teaching Dance and Art in Public Schools
  The UW Dance Department, the UW Art Department, the UW Pipeline Project, the UW OEPLT, and Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB) have collaborated on a seminar and set of community placements for UW undergraduates. Students will be recruited from the areas of dance, art history, visual arts, and visual communication/design. The seminar will be focused around a PNB in-school residency project that is bringing dance and set design inspired by Jacob Lawrence’s Great Migration series to three culturally diverse Eastside public schools.

Participate in Campus wide programs designed to address under represented students
• Gear-Up
• Pipeline
• UW Diversity Fair

Graduate student recruitment efforts include:

• Work with GO-MAP to contact potential minority applicants to the MFA programs. (Send information about degrees with an invitation to visit the School of Art and make contact with faculty and Grad Admin Coordinator).
• Coordinate Prospective Student Days with GO-MAP. Sponsor events and tours that highlight SOA programs and introduce prospective grads to the diverse arts community of Seattle.