



HOW TO CREATE A PORTFOLIO

Why do you need a portfolio?

Students applying for a creative degree need a portfolio to showcase their work, passion and interests. A portfolio isn't just documenting your artistic journey so far, it's a statement of your creative intent.

What a university may expect to see in your portfolio

- **Your ideas** – You can explore a multitude of routes.
- **Confidence** – Talent is an attitude.
- **Notebooks, diaries, sketchbooks, artists books, zines.**
- **Your body of work** - This could be objects, images, sound work, videos, web platforms, performance, etc. It may be presented physically or digitally and should contain no more than 20 pieces.
- **An example of how you express yourself through words** (essays, blogs, vlogs, rap, poetry etc.)
- **A piece from your body of work that best represents who you are now.**

Top Tips

- **Be selective and reflective** - Curate the story you want to tell us.
- **Show your versatility!** - Include a broad range of your skills
- **Showcase your strengths**
- **Prioritise quality over quantity**
- **Put your work in the order that you want to talk about it**

The 3 C's

- You may not have work to put into your portfolio yet. Follow these 3 helpful steps to create interesting pieces for your portfolio.
- **Creativity:** Get creative! Experiment with new techniques and processes.
- **Collaboration:** Collaborating with another artist is a great way of making interesting pieces.
- **Communication:** Communication is a key aspect of creating work. It's important to use your practice to share your thoughts, feelings and ideas.

The 4 W's

When it comes to selecting and critiquing your work, following these 4 steps will help you prioritise quality over quantity.

- **What** - What is this piece about? Think about the meaning behind this piece.
- **Why** - Why is this piece important to your practice? Thinking about this will help you narrow down your selection.
- **Where** - Where can you go with this piece? If it is an experimentation, think about where you could take it. It's important to understand the journey of each piece.
- **When** - When did you create this piece? Thinking about this will help you determine how relevant it is to your current practice.