

CONSERVATORY PLACEMENT ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

FILM & TELEVISION CONSERVATORY

[AARON ORULLIAN, Director | ext. 6879](#)

Digital Submission & In-Person Placement Activity

Extended Admission Session

9th Grade (Waitlist placement only)

10th Grade (Enrollment Placement Opportunity)

Placement Activity Guidelines:

Our conservatory looks for applicants who are collaborative, eager to learn, and express a unique point of view. Good storytelling and visual skills are also essential. While incoming 9th grade students are not required to have previous film or television experience, knowledge of editing, script writing, and camera work is a plus. If you are primarily interested in film acting, please consider applying to the Musical Theatre or Acting Conservatories. If you are primarily interested in gaming or animation, please consider applying to the Design & Media Conservatory.

To determine if this conservatory is the best fit for you, applicants will submit a **Visual Sample** and a **Writing Sample** for feedback and review. Applicants will also participate in an **In-Person Interview**, so that we can learn more about your work, interests, and goals, as well as your desire to study film and television at OCSA.

Visual Sample Guidelines:

Prepare and upload one (1) of the following items with your application:

- **A short film, documentary, music video, or TV news piece:** Please upload your sample to YouTube and insert the link for the film into your online application (please do not send Google links as they may not open properly). Be sure the video plays back properly and keep this link active until after the admission lottery. Keep your sample to five (5) minutes maximum.

Your visual sample can be a work you have already made or something you make for this portfolio. **Your sample should tell a complete story with a beginning, middle, and end.** ***This sample should also showcase your work in a major creative role*** (as director, cinematographer, or editor) and can include stop-motion animation. Be careful to avoid overly violent or sexual content or crude language in your work (keep it to a PG). Try not to end your story as if it was all a dream. If you have other work you are proud of

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and would like to share, you can include those as supplemental YouTube links. Please specify which project you would like to be assessed for feedback.

Since we won't be making these types of projects in Film & Television, please do not submit: Home movies, vlogs, music videos that don't tell a visual story, YouTube or TikTok skit or prank videos, skateboard or sports videos.

OR

- **For incoming 9th graders only, if you don't have access to a camera and editing equipment, submit 20 to 30 storyboard frames that you have created that tell a complete story. These may be computer-generated, hand-drawn, or consist of a series of photographs. Imagine that these frames are stills from your movie. Be sure that these images tell a complete story from beginning to end. Title your storyboards. Scan and upload these as a single **PDF** file along with your writing sample into the "Portfolio" uploader field. **Multiple documents must be combined into a single PDF.****
- ***NOTE: Applicants applying for grades 10-12 will need to provide a visual sample they have filmed and edited themselves, as they will be tracked into courses where these skills are a prerequisite.***

Writing Sample Guidelines:

Prepare and upload the following item with your application:

- **An original writing sample for a five (5) minute short film, TV piece, or documentary.** To show your range of ideas, **your writing sample should be an original story that is different from your visual sample.** It should tell a complete story with characters and obstacles and a beginning, middle, and end. Feel free to write something you wish you could make if money was no object. You may submit this in one (1) of the following formats in 10 or 12 point font:
 - Five (5) page script
 - Two (2) to three (3) page short story
 - One (1) page story synopsis, at least three (3) paragraphs long
 - Submit only **PDF** documents, **title** your sample, and use **10 or 12 point font.**

While you don't need to use screenwriting software for your sample, there are several options that allow you to write a few scripts for free, including Celtx, Writer Duet, Arc Studio, and Fade In. Google also has free templates.

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In-Person Interview Guidelines:

Applicants will be scheduled to meet with conservatory staff to discuss their work and application answers. The interview will last about 15 minutes. Please be prepared to talk about your samples, filmmaking interests, and goals, as well as why studying film and television at OCSA would be important for you as an artist. Please dress your best and arrive a little early to find parking and our building (imagine this is a job interview).

Applicants who are English language learners, have a disability, or need technology assistance are encouraged to reach out for support with the admissions process. Please contact admissions@ocsarts.net or 714.560.0900 ext. 5510 for more information.

Hay asistencia disponible para los solicitantes aprendiendo inglés, que tienen una discapacidad, o los que necesitan asistencia tecnológica. Favor de ponerse contacto con nosotros por correo electrónico admissions@ocsarts.net o por llamar 714-560-0900 ext. 5510 para más información.

Applicants requesting accommodations must have established eligibility under IDEA, Section 504 or an established Academic Support Plan (private schools only). The documentation must be provided at the time of application submission. Confidential documents must be sent directly to Lauren Reynolds, Director of Special Services, at lauren.reynolds@ocsarts.net.

Accommodations must be requested 15 days in advance of placement activities for planning purposes.