DEVELOPING OUR CULTURAL LEADERS

Why GRADUATE STUDIES IN ARTS LEADERSHIP?

Ours is a laddered program where students can receive a Graduate Diploma in Arts Management with the successful completion of the first term, or choose to complete the MA in Arts Leadership with the successful completion of second and third terms. Students receive a 360° view of the arts industry with courses in arts philanthropy and major gifts, arts marketing, cultural policy, strategic thinking and planning, contract negotiation, industrial relations, and an introduction to financial and management accounting. They are exposed to, and taught by, top practitioners in the arts industry who provide a focus on experiential learning through live site research assignments and a final term practicum placement in an arts organization to serve as a capstone project. Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena.

Why QUEEN’S?

Queen’s offers its students a perfect balance of engagement with rigorous academic programs and access to first class practitioners and arts facilities. Both the diploma and ARTSL MA programs are cross-disciplinary – taught by a combination of instructors from the Dan School of Drama and Music, the Master of Industrial Relations program, and the Smith School of Business. In addition, the campus boasts world class facilities including a major Performing Arts Centre, Art Gallery, and Library – all with senior staff whose management experience adds to the practical teaching environment. At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen’s more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

Program OUTCOMES

- Acquire institutional management skills
- Gain a comprehensive understanding of the tenets of the nonprofit sector
- Receive guidelines for strategic thinking and implementing organizational missions
- Benefit from advanced marketing and development training
- Learn integrated approaches to arts advocacy and cultural policy
- Discern the special nature of negotiating Arts-related contract and collective agreements
- Plan for capital development projects and the related community integration
- Understand and serve as a proponent for the Creative Economy

Program STRUCTURE

The five core courses needed to complete the Graduate Diploma in Arts Management are offered during a single summer session studying at Queen’s. After successful completion of the Graduate Diploma program, a student may continue on to pursue the MA program in Arts Leadership through the completion of one additional term of coursework in the Fall followed by a second “capstone” term involving a practicum placement in the arts industry.
MA in Arts Leadership / Arts Management GRADUATE DIPLOMA

**DIPLOMA PHASE**

- Achieve your academic goals
  - Develop relationships with a mixture of emerging and established practitioners who are joined in a common pursuit of professional innovation.
  - Engage in the academic and professional training process with help from departmental supervision, the Program’s Grad Coordinators and the Student Success and Engagement Hub.

- Maximize your professional arts training
  - With the help of the program’s five core courses, enhance your current skills and pursue new ones within the Arts management field.
  - Learn through interactive projects led by senior management professionals and get learning support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning.
  - Work on collective projects with peers who bring an international perspective to your field of interest.
  - Take advantage of professional development workshops and simulated on-the-job budget negotiations offered as an element of the learning environment at a major arts facility.

- Build skills and experience
  - Interact with students and outside professionals from a full range of Arts disciplines – expanding your knowledge base and connections.
  - Enjoy the opportunity to collaborate with practitioners and students from other communities and organizations throughout the world.
  - Advocate for the Arts and for the value systems at their foundation.

- Engage with your community
  - Let your enhanced skill set lead you to new opportunities within or beyond your current workplace.
  - Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons or the Graduate Student Career Week to explore your career pathways.
  - Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services career planning workshop or meeting with a career counselor. Check out books like What Are You Going to Do With That? for advice on various career options.

- Expand your career opportunities
  - Prioritize diversity and find new sources of innovation.
  - Through a variety of learning choices, broaden your engagement with all areas of the mission-driven nonprofit sector.
  - Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and beginning of your job search plan. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, or interviews.

**MA STUDY PHASE**

- Achieve your academic goals
  - Complete your coursework (either on campus or at a distance).
  - Finalize your plans for your practicum.

- Maximize your professional arts training
  - In addition to core studies in negotiation and cultural policy, expand your knowledge base by choosing from a menu of elective seminars and administration courses.
  - Create your own advanced study experience on or off campus.

- Build skills and experience
  - Find opportunities to balance your course work (online or on campus) with ongoing work off campus.
  - For those interested in a full-on campus experience, enjoy face-to-face contact with all campus instructors and pursue possible opportunities for Teaching Assistantships.

- Engage with your community
  - Pull together your various campus study communities with your active work communities. Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural not-for-profit environment.
  - Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through QueensConnects on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Check out a workshop from Career Services.

- Expand your career opportunities
  - Prioritize diversity and find new sources of innovation.
  - Through a variety of learning choices, broaden your engagement with all areas of the mission-driven nonprofit sector.
  - Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and beginning of your job search plan. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, or interviews.

**MA PRACTICUM**

- Achieve your academic goals
  - Complete your Master’s program with a professional placement while looking forward to exploring future applications for your new training and connections.

- Maximize your professional arts training
  - Learn by doing: with program support and supervision, work within an accredited Arts Organization of your choosing.
  - Applied learning opportunities involve a term-long placement working with industry professionals as you study and assess management structure from the inside.

- Build skills and experience
  - Develop relationships with top practitioners and build further connections within the industry.
  - Check out opportunities for sponsored internships within your field.

- Engage with your community
  - While working in the field off-campus, pursue targeted networking with people who engage you both in your workplace or look beyond it to new challenges.
  - Expand your connections by joining professional associations and attending conferences and workshops throughout the Arts Industry.

- Expand your career opportunities
  - Feel confident moving into a leadership role in your existing workplace or look beyond it to new challenges.
  - Through experience and practical exposure, reimage the structures and alliances that drive your field or persuasively build new visions for the Arts.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A graduate degree in Arts Leadership or Arts Management can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective communication skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- Time management: meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Perseverance
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness: an understanding of ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

**WHERE CAN I GO?**

A Master’s degree in Diploma in Arts Management and/or Master’s degree in Arts Leadership can take your career in many directions. Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Arts Administration
- Production Management
- Not-For-Profit Advocacy
- Cultural Sector Marketing
- Arts Facility Management
- Community Outreach and Education
- Development and Advancement
- HR Management for the Arts
- Business Management
- Director for Performing Arts Organization

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps.html for the online version with links!
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- A minimum B+ average in the last two years of an Honours (4-year) Bachelor’s program.
- Students with humanities-based backgrounds or from traditionally unrelated fields may also be considered for admission if they can demonstrate professional equivalency through prior experience in Arts administration.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Statement of Interest: Applicants can submit a statement of interest of up to 2000 characters.
- Two reference letters, either academic or professional.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Applications will be processed as they are received.
- Final application due: January 15
- Notification of acceptance: As they are received and processed.
- Classes start: May 14

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

There is no guaranteed funding for students. However, students may apply for Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant positions. Most students will also undertake a paid professional internship in the winter term.