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 contracts and collective agreements
• Plan for capital development projects and related community integration
• Understand and serve as an advocate 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.
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
- Perserverance
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness and understanding of sound 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 Graduate 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.

Graduate Diploma

Opportunities

Your Career

Skills and

Build

Professional

Academic

Goals

Achieve Your

Maximize Your Professional Arts Training

Consult with students and outside professionals from a full range of Arts disciplines – expanding your knowledge base and connections.

Interact with students and outside professionals from a full range of Arts disciplines – expanding your knowledge base and connections.

Face-to-face contact with campus instructors and pursue possible opportunities for Teaching Assistants.

Develop relationships with top practitioners and build further connections within the industry.

Pull together your various campus study communities with your active work communities. Prepare for work or study in a multi-cultural not-for-profit environment.

While working in the field off-campus, pursue targeted networking with people who engage you both in your workplace and beyond.

EXPAND YOUR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- 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 School of Graduate Studies Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services 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.
- 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 your job search plan. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.
- Feel confident moving into a leadership role in your existing workplace or look beyond it to new challenges.
- Through experience and practical exposure, reimagine the structures and alliances that drive your field or persuasively build new visions for the Arts.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- 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.
- Course work (online or on campus) with ongoing work off campus
- Finalize your plans for your practicum.
- Develop relationships with top practitioners and build further connections within the industry.
- Opportunities for sponsored internships within your field.

MA STUDY PHASE

- Complete your coursework (either on campus or at a distance).
- Finalize your plans for your practicum.
- Complete your Master’s program with a professional placement while looking forward to exploring future applications for your new training and connections.
- Learn by doing: with program support and supervision, work within an accredited Arts Organization.
- Applied learning opportunities involve a term-long placement working with industry professionals as you study and assess management structure from the inside.

MA PRACTICUM

- Face-to-face contact with campus instructors and pursue possible 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.
- In addition to studies in negotiation and cultural policy, expand your knowledge base by choosing from a menu of administration courses.
- Create your own advanced study experience on or off campus.
- With the help of the program’s five core courses, enhance your current skills and pursue new ones within the Arts management field.
- Opportunities for sponsored internships within your field.

DIPLOMA PHASE

- 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 supervisors, the Program’s Grad Coordinators and the SGS website.
- 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.
- Opportunities for sponsored internships within your field.

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 4000 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 following minimum scores are required: (1) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30). Applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score, or (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band), or (3) PTE Academics: 65, or (4) CAEL CE -70 (minimum overall score).

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Final application due: February 15
- Notification of acceptance: By April 1
- Classes start: May 9

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.