The BXA programs combine coursework in both creative and academic disciplines.

Students who have goals that can only be achieved by integrating creative and academic work are ideally suited to the BXA programs, which promote innovative approaches to interdisciplinary topics. BXA students create new knowledge and challenge definitions. BXA students are independent, motivated and well-rounded scholars and artists.

**PROGRAMS**

**Bachelor of Computer Science and Arts (BCSA)**
This program provides an ideal technical, critical and conceptual foundation for students pursuing fields that comprehensively meld technology and the arts, such as game design, computer animation, computer music, interactive stagecraft, robotic art and other emerging media. It integrates interests in CFA and SCS.

**Bachelor of Humanities and Arts (BHA)**
This intercollege degree is jointly offered by CFA and DC. The program provides depth in one of the fine arts disciplines in combination with a concentration in one of the subject areas offered by DC, including Psychology, Creative Writing, Decision Science and many more.

**Bachelor of Science and Arts (BSA)**
This program is for students who wish to explore dual interests in CFA and MCS. The goal of this degree program is to allow uniquely qualified students the opportunity to fuse their chosen areas of study in the fine arts and the sciences.

**Engineering and Arts (EA)**
**Additional Major**
This program allows Engineering majors the ability to incorporate a CFA concentration and interdisciplinary courses to expand their field of study. Students graduate with engineering licensure and are prepared to work in creative, collaborative and entrepreneurial environments.

**GRADUATED CLASS – SPRING 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Program</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Humanities and Arts</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science and Arts</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Computer Science and Arts</td>
<td>16%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Popular First-Year Courses**

The BXA Freshman Interdisciplinary Seminar introduces freshman students to arts-based research through the model of the Cabinet of Wonder/Wunderkammer. Students study modes of representation across media before creating a final project to be presented in an exhibition at the end of the semester. Recent projects have adapted and remixed course texts into new genres and media, including short films, animations, video games and 2D and 3D art objects.

BXA students take academic courses and creative studios alongside majors in those disciplines. A BXA student’s freshman schedule will reflect the student’s specific concentrations, and may include Concept Studio (Art), Instrumental Ensemble (Music), Architectural Drawing (Architecture) or Fundamentals of Drama (Drama), as well as academic courses in DC, E, MCS or SCS.

**FACULTY**

**Notable Faculty**

BXA provides access to five strong colleges that offer specialized training with expert faculty and researchers.
Alumni Accomplishments

Kaytie Nielsen (BHA 2016) is building on her successes in filmmaking and social justice advocacy as a Marshall Scholar, studying screenwriting in the United Kingdom. She previously won a nationally competitive fellowship from the Henry Luce Foundation providing stipends, language training and individualized professional placement in Asia. She also received a Fulbright Award as a first-year creative writing professional placement in Asia. She also received an award winners recognized for his significant contributions to the quality of life at the university. He also worked with a group of men at a local shelter to advocate and raise funds by creating a series of cups molded with the handprints of individuals experiencing homelessness.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. The 2019 graduating senior class completed BXA Capstone Projects including:
   (> a mapping project that explores New York City’s historical urban boundary computed as a fractal
   > the exploration of a group choir as a potential alternative, singing-based therapy for Parkinson’s disease patients experiencing hypophonia (quiet speech)
   > a logistical plan for an urban community garden that would allow for accessible produce, community building and educational opportunities in Pittsburgh

BXA students find their Capstone Projects to be an essential component of their undergraduate story, showing how success can be measured not just by their final output, but also by the process that got them to that point. The BXA Capstone sequence covers both semesters of a student’s senior year in consultation with the BXA director and an expert in a chosen field of interest. These projects are often successfully funded by grant opportunities.

2. BXA students are encouraged to study abroad to broaden their interdisciplinary experience. In the last five years, over one-third of BXA graduating seniors have studied abroad.

3. BXA students receive advising support from various academic areas — in addition to a primary BXA advisor, students are also required to stay in contact with a CFA advisor and an advisor in their academic concentration.

4. 89% of the 2019 graduating class achieved university and/or college honors.

Employment

A BXA intercollege degree prepares students for graduate study or additional training in the arts and other academic areas. Recent graduates have pursued medical, dental, law, professional, MFA and Ph.D. programs at top ranking institutions such as Columbia, Harvard, MIT and Penn.

In addition, students are prepared for careers in a variety of fields, including positions with arts and education nonprofits like museums and foundations, as well as technical positions with media and technology companies.

Student Awards

Christine Phang (BHA 2019), a children’s book author and illustrator, was selected by the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences as a co-winner of the Gretchen Goldsmith Lankford Award. The award recognizes a rising educator who plans to attend graduate school and enter into a career in teaching.

Daniel See (BHA 2019) was one of the Alumni Association’s student engagement award winners recognized for his significant contributions to the quality of life at the university. He also worked with a group of men at a local shelter to advocate and raise funds by creating a series of cups molded with the handprints of individuals experiencing homelessness.

I-Dedications

Mauricio Gil-Silva’s (BSA 2019) constructed model for converting data from mice walking on a treadmill to elements of sound, providing scientists with an auditory display that can help them engage data in a novel way.

Sending Love through Wearable Technology

Caroline Hermans (BHA 2019) made a short volumetric film composed of individual tales on memory as told by people with progressive memory loss. It was inspired by neuroscientific research on degenerative disorders and active recall.

Sonifying Mice

Carolin Hermans (E 2018; EA additional major) explored romantic wearable technology in the form of a pair of scarves that facilitate the wordless exchange of warmth, love and attention. Partners communicate by touching a capacitive sensor embedded in their scarf, which signals the other person’s scarf to warm up using a heating pad.