



**MFA Visual Narrative
Application Process
March 1, 2013**

APPLICATIONS REMAIN OPEN, but not for long!

The response to the MFA Visual Narrative program has been overwhelming and we are very excited you are interested in applying to the program. We would like to make the application process as simple as we can. Below you will find an updated clarification on required application materials, procedures and departmental requirements. For any additional questions, please contact us by email mfavisualnarrative@sva.edu or by phone at 212.592.2388.

TO APPLY:

<https://www.applyweb.com/apply/svag/>

F.A.Q. document about the program, financial aid resources, housing and more:

<http://www.sva.edu/graduate/mfa-visual-narrative>

THE REVIEW PROCESS TO DATE

The MFAVN department is still accepting applications on a rolling deadline basis until 20 slots for June 2013 are filled. We have begun reviewing applications and will hold a second, and probably final, review process towards the end of March. In some cases, we may ask for an interview. Notification letters will be sent throughout the process. Note that there may **not** be a third round of application reviews. So we strongly encourage all those still interested in applying, and those still collecting materials for applications already underway for the 2013 inaugural year, to complete your submissions as soon as you possibly can.

BASIC APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

PLEASE NOTE! We cannot even begin to review an application unless the following items have been submitted:

- A.) Application and Fee
- B.) Portfolio samples
- C.) Statement of Purpose
- D.) Visual Narrative Assignment
- E.) A short essay about your theme choice for the assignment

These are detailed listed below as items 1, 2, 5, 10 and 11. Additionally, we will not and cannot award acceptance to the program until you have submitted ALL of the required application materials (and all additional materials required for international students).

Personal interviews are available, but not required.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Be aware that you can be admitted to the U.S. 30 days before the summer semester begins, and stay for 60 days after the summer semester end date on a "grace period." Since our students are not enrolled full time in the Fall and Spring semesters, students cannot stay in the U.S. on the F-1 visa during those times. Please contact the International Student Office if you need any clarification on this issue (iso@sva.edu), and check the grad catalogue for full application and visa instructions.

<http://www.sva.edu/student-life/international-students>

Application Requirements for the MFA VN Program

To begin the process, please login online: <https://www.applyweb.com/apply/svag/>

*The MFA Visual Narrative program now requires all items listed below in **bold** to be submitted digitally, via CD, DVD, or USB. Additional printed copies may be submitted as well. ALL digital, analog and supplemental materials must be sent to the graduate admissions department ONLY! **DO NOT send anything to MFA Visual Narrative program directly.***

The following is a complete list of items you will be prompted to submit during your online application process. Where there are department requirements that supersede the SVA requirements, these are in bold with detail.

THE LIST

1. Application and Fee (as instructed)

2. Portfolio (Department Requirement) via digital submission

15 to 20 digital images (jpeg format for the Macintosh platform). Files must be labeled as follows: first initial, last name, project title (or number) of image, e.g., jdoe_project.jpg. Digital images must be 1500 pixels in width or height at 72 dpi. No PowerPoint or other type of presentation format or online portfolio will be accepted. The work should be of professional publication quality or published work.

Please be selective, choosing 15 to 20 pieces that will best represent your work experience, professional practice and abilities as a visual storyteller.

3. Permanent Resident Card (if applicable)

4. Transcripts (as instructed)

5. Statement of Purpose (Department Version- Requirement) via digital submission

A typed statement of intent between 500 and 1,000 words defining why you have chosen to apply to this program, what you hope to achieve during your course of study and what "storytelling" means to you.

6. Resume (as instructed)
7. Three Letters of Recommendation (as instructed)
8. Proof of English Proficiency (if applicable and as instructed)
9. Personal Website URL (this is optional, and cannot be used as your portfolio)

**10. Visual Narrative Assignment (Department Assignment)
via digital submission**

An original visual narrative, specifically designed and executed for this application, utilizing one of three themes:

- PIE – The baked good, mathematical equivalent, information graphic, etc...
- The iconography of THREE – The number 3, the trinity, triptych, etc...
- EVIL – The embodiment of, as told in mythology or folklore, Satan himself, etc...

The physical/visual format and content is up to each applicant to write, design and execute as he/she sees fit, but **must consist of visuals combined with text or audio**. Examples such as sequential narrative, interactive PDF, illustrated novel, a short, narrative body of work, animated/animatic short, etc. will be accepted. Examples of media and/or format with minimum requirements are below. For digital format requirements, please refer to the portfolio section above. Additional, detailed questions or concerns are welcomed by email mfavisualnarrative@sva.edu or phone 212.592.2388 during normal business office hours.

Examples:

- A.) Minimum 2-5 pages of comic book, illustrated novel, children's book
- B.) Minimum 2-5 minute video or animation
- C.) Minimum 2-5 new pieces of art, forming a new body of narrative work - such as paintings, sculptures, 3D illustrations
- D.) Etc...

11. Essay (Support of Department Assignment) via digital submission

A short typed essay of around 500 words outlining why the applicant chose the theme must accompany the visual narrative. This can be uploaded in online application section 12/13 as "Writing Sample".

12. Supporting Material (Optional)

Any other material outlining the applicant's expertise in this discipline is encouraged but not required, including any or all of the following;

- Animation, audio, film or design portfolio/samples/video: mov, flv, or wmv files, not to exceed 10 minutes in length, up to 60MB each. Audio: mp3 not to exceed 10 minutes in length, up to 10MB each
- Published works of literature or professional writing samples
- Any published works of visual narrative or sequential samples that the applicant has contributed to or created, along with a written statement describing the challenges and achievements met along the way

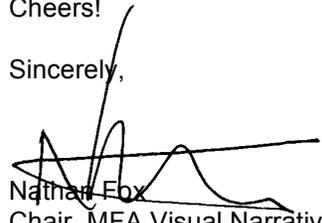
Nathan Fox, Chair
MFA Visual Narrative
nfox@sva.edu
212-592-2390

And remember, applicants should be proficient in Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, familiar with Adobe InDesign and own one mobile smart device (tablet or smart phone).

Thank you again for your interest in the MFA Visual Narrative Program. We hope this has been a helpful application submission guide. We look forward to reviewing your application for the first low-residency graduate program in visual storytelling and discovering who you are as both an artist and author.

Cheers!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Fox", written over a horizontal line.

Nathan Fox
Chair, MFA Visual Narrative
School of Visual Arts