Carnegie Mellon University’s College of Fine Arts, a community of internationally recognized artists and professionals organized into five schools, has set its sights on being known as the definitive international hub of arts, architecture and design education, research and practice in the 21st century. We welcome visionaries and creative thinkers to study alongside our world-class faculty, staff and students to produce new culture, knowledge, techniques and technologies in architecture, art, design, drama and music.

### Constructing Innovative Solutions for Emerging Global Challenges

Within Carnegie Mellon’s School of Architecture, you’ll build a strong foundation in the discipline with an emphasis on the role creativity plays in architectural design. You’ll gain an understanding of architecture’s historical, social and environmental contexts. And you’ll critically engage technology in architectural innovation while working to achieve social progress and justice in the built environment.

Here, you’ll have the opportunity to gain core knowledge through concentrations in architecture subdisciplines including urban design, sustainable design or computational design. You may also pursue coursework in Carnegie Mellon University’s other renowned programs in the sciences, humanities, business and engineering. This interdisciplinary education ensures that while every School of Architecture student graduates with intensive architecture knowledge, no two graduates leave with the same education.

Our goal is to produce discipline-defining designers who can think critically in diverse global contexts. Program graduates excel in the roles architects have performed for centuries — and in new roles catalyzed by the depth and breadth of their education — to create and execute innovative solutions to a wide range of emerging global challenges.

### Did you know?

**EVERY UNDERGRADUATE ARCHITECTURE STUDENT** is trained to use both our Digital Fabrication Lab (dFAB) and wood/metal shop facilities. dFAB provides students access to digitally driven tools for 3D printing, laser cutting, 3-axis CNC milling, 6-axis custom robotic tooling operations and vacuum forming. Students also learn the art of making by hand in the wood/metal shop with training to operate equipment like a surfacer, jointers, table and radial-arm saws, wood and metal band saws, drill presses and other power and hand tools.

**EX-CHANGE** is an annual School of Architecture publication and exhibition that celebrates an academic year of student work from first year to Ph.D. EX-CHANGE 2022 examines three challenges addressed by the School of Architecture’s pedagogies: artificial intelligence, social justice and climate change.

**STUDENTS IN PROFESSOR CHRISTINE MONDOR’S HELIOSTUDIO** are collaborating with the founders of the nonprofit Land Art Generator Initiative (LAGI), Elizabeth Mononian (MFA 2000) and Robert Ferry (CFA 1998), to create art installations that could inspire others to take collective action on issues of climate change. The studio explores energy performance and place while examining the cultural and economic systems that will enable or inhibit solarization.

### Programs

**Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch)**  
5-year, NAAB-accredited professional degree program

**B.A. in Architecture**  
4-year pre-professional degree program

### Minors

- Architecture
- Architectural Design Fabrication
- Architectural History
- Architectural Representation and Visualization
- Architectural Technology
- Building Science
- Computational Design

### Concentrations

- Integrative Design, Arts and Technology (iDeATe)

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**FIRST-YEAR CLASS**  
**FALL 2022**  
**68**
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS: SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Curriculum Overview

In education and architecture, there's no one size fits all. In the School of Architecture, you'll construct an educational path that fits your goals. You'll begin with a foundational, studio-based curriculum in architectural research, design, building science, computation, ecology, materials and urbanism. You'll train in our Digital Fabrication Lab and wood/metal shop. Then you'll choose between two options — the 5-year NAAB-accredited Bachelor of Architecture or the 4-year Bachelor of Arts in Architecture.

The Bachelor of Architecture program is for students set on pursuing a career as a licensed architect. Coursework centers around a carefully structured set of studio, technical and professional courses about building design and construction. The Bachelor of Arts in Architecture incorporates inter-disciplinary exploration and provides students the opportunity to double major, test the boundaries of the discipline and explore a variety of interests.

Additional opportunities for growth include research and extracurricular activities. Study abroad is also recommended for students to expand their world view while seeing the architecture of different countries. Past students have taken courses in countries from Australia to Switzerland. School-specific study abroad opportunities include semester or year-long exchange programs and summer study.

Innovative Projects

Conversing with Computational Agents

Ph.D.-CD candidate Pedro Veloso's thesis, “Self-Learning Agents for Spatial Synthesis,” investigates how spatial agents can learn to achieve goals defined by the designer. The agents, which may become rooms or building zones, work in conversation with the designer to develop a collaborative solution.

Bird-friendly Façade Designs

Azadeh Sawyer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Building Technology, is working with the American Bird Conservancy and MSSD graduate student Aprameya Pandit on a CFA-supported project to develop visually interesting, bird-friendly façade designs that optimize daylighting and building efficiency.

Addressing Housing Inequalities

The Carnegie Mellon University Freedom By Design (FBD) chapter was awarded a 2020 NOMA-NAACP-SEED Award for Design Excellence in Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for Weatherization Kit Project. It aims to address housing inequalities by providing information and materials to residents living in older homes, who don't have the means to move or complete permanent renovations, to save money and energy in the winter months.

Notable Alumni

Madeline Gannon, (Ph.D.-CD 2017, MSCD 2011) principal researcher, ATONATON, Pittsburgh

Richman Neumann, AIA, LEED AP (CFA 2013) CEO, Modumate, San Francisco

Carolyn Caranante, AIA, (CFA 2009, 2010), architect/construction project manager, AECOM Tishman, NYC

Nina Barbuto, (CFA 2006), Executive director, Assemble, Pittsburgh

Lauren Schmidt, AIA, LEED AP (CFA 2004) director, Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF), NYC

Andrea Love, AIA, LEED Fellow (CFA 2002) principal/director of building science, Payette, Boston

Adam Farmerie, (CFA 1996) and Greg Bradshaw, (CFA 1992) founders and partners, AvroKO, NYC

Christine Mondor, FAIA, LEED AP (CFA 1992) principal, evolveEA

Dutch MacDonald, (CFA 1991) managing director, BCG Platinion, Pittsburgh

Gregory Mottola, FAIA (CFA 1991) principal, BCJ Architects, San Francisco

Pradeep Ranka, (CFA 1991) creative and technical director, Ranka Group, Bangalore

AVG STARTING SALARY

$60,005

GRADUATE SUCCESS

84% Employed or in grad school within six months of graduation

DATA AS OF JANUARY 2022

80% OF GRADUATES RESPONDING

RECENT EMPLOYERS

AECOM Google
Apple Robot
Alibaba KPF
CannonDesign Microsoft
Deeplocal Oculus VR
Deloitte Payette
Gensler Perkins Eastman
Goldman Sachs Zillow

November 2022

OFFICE OF ADMISSION
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY
5000 FORBES AVENUE
PITTSBURGH PA 15213-3890
T: 412.268.2082
F: 412.268.7838
E: admission@andrew.cmu.edu
W: cmu.edu/admission

carnegiemellonadmission
CMadmission
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Carnegie Mellon University

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