

Oslo National Academy of the Arts - Strategic Plan 2017-2022

Our Social Mission

The Oslo National Academy of the Arts provides education and training for visual and performing artists and designers, conducts artistic research at the highest international level, and disseminates knowledge about the Academy's activities, operations and values.

The Vision

The Oslo National Academy of the Arts strives to maintain a leading position in the education of creative and performing artists and designers. The Academy is intended both as an arena for innovation within academic traditions, and as a future-oriented contributor to knowledge and social development. International cooperation is a prerequisite for quality, both in education and in research.

The students – tomorrow's artists and designers

The Oslo National Academy of the Arts trains independent and engaged artists and designers who decisively influence artistic and cultural life in Norway. Over many decades, the artists and designers who have emerged from the Academy have shaped the agenda in the fields of theatre, dance, opera, visual arts, craft and design in Norway. The Oslo National Academy of the Arts helps to fill Norwegian and international performance and exhibition spaces. The Academy will continue to produce professional creatives who make a difference – not only to art and design, but also to society. The artistic ambitions and commitment of our students, together with the exceptional skills and competence of our staff, form the principal raw materials for the school's activities. The students of today will be the artists and designers of tomorrow. Their perspective is fundamental to the development of the school.

Our objectives are

- to attract highly qualified students with a diversity of cultural and artistic backgrounds
- to train specialised and independent-minded Bachelor graduates

- to develop Masters programmes with opportunities for greater specialisation, and which draw their perspectives and ideas from the full breadth of fields studied at the Academy
- to establish a doctoral programme for artistic research, alone or in partnership
- to work closely with research fellows and teaching staff on the design of four-year fellowship positions
- to play an active part at every stage of the educational courses we provide
- to raise the quality of education by further developing teaching and assessment methods, through the use of national and international peer review processes, and student and teacher exchanges
- to consolidate our status as a centre of educational excellence
- to provide a learning environment where students develop both professionally and personally

Artistic research – the new knowledge

Artistic research at the Oslo National Academy of the Arts is a source of new art and design, and new knowledge about and insights into art and its contexts. Artistic practice serves to deepen experience and understanding in ways that add new perspectives to existing knowledge paradigms. In an era that places high demands on the capacity to be flexible and on openness to change, artistic research at the Academy seeks to cultivate new perspectives and approaches that both reinvigorate the artistic disciplines and contribute to social development more broadly. It is expected that artistic research at the Academy should be groundbreaking, contribute to developments within the various fields, and be rooted in artistic practice.

Our objectives are

- to enhance and promote the many cutting-edge fields of research at the Academy and their associated networks

- to cultivate the Academy's fields of specialisation through the strategic use of national and international research partnerships
- to define quality and standards of artistic research
- to strengthen the rectorate with a vice-rector for artistic research
- to further develop attractive arenas for the sharing and development of artistic research work
- to expand the publication and dissemination of research results in all our disciplines

Present in the world

The Oslo National Academy of the Arts is an educational institution with exceptional community contacts.

To contribute to the development of art and culture is to contribute to the development of a democratic society that prioritises values such as freedom of expression, education, and respect for aesthetic experience. With an active policy of using artists as guest teachers, a specialised teaching staff, and an on-going programme of student performances and exhibitions, we cultivate a learning environment with close links to the professional and practical field. The Oslo National Academy of the Arts seeks to be outgoing and active in its interactions with the professional art world nationally and internationally, and to play a clear and dynamic role in society.

Our objectives are

- to enhance understanding of the value of art and artistic processes as beneficial to aesthetic awareness, democracy, the labour market and openness to change
- to strengthen the Academy as an arena for “art in the making” and for the sharing of artistic methods and results
- to further define our national responsibilities within relevant fields
- to train artists and designers who contribute to working and social life
- to develop audience awareness and effective systems to reach appropriate audiences

A transparent, attractive and dynamic organisation

The Oslo National Academy of the Arts seeks to optimise its use of human and material resources for the benefit of education, artistic research and dissemination, and to be an attractive place to work and study.

Our objectives are

- to recruit, develop and retain highly qualified and motivated staff
- to promote a work environment characterised by inspiring cooperation, well-being and affirmation
- to stimulate and facilitate cooperation between departments and sections
- to maintain a mix of full-time, fixed-term staff members and guest teachers, all with specialist skills in the art field that are beneficial to our objectives and priorities
- to implement knowledge-based resource distribution between the Academy's various disciplines and to maintain a healthy balance between activities and resources
- to ensure that our academic, administrative and technical staff and resources are organised and used in ways that are beneficial to our core activities
- to improve our financial flexibility by increasing external funding and optimising use of resources internally

The Academy's Ethos

The Oslo National Academy of the Arts strives for constructive interactions which allow us to help each other develop and to better ourselves. We seek to develop transparent processes for knowledge-based decision-making and prioritisation. We aim to enable professional knowledge and ideas to collide in productive and stimulating ways. We value diversity, critical awareness, responsibility and mutual respect.