



## A Rare Combination.®

**MISSION** The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) is a national leader in fine arts education that brings together artists and the public through exceptional teaching programs, a world-class collection of American art, major exhibitions, and widely accessible public programs.

**HISTORY** Founded in 1805 by artist and scientist Charles Willson Peale and other civic-minded artists and business leaders, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts is the first museum and school of fine arts in the nation. Peale's intention was to create a school and accompanying gallery focused on casts of antique sculptures as well as contemporary and European art where American artists could receive training and study current work.

Nearly every major American artist has taught, studied, or exhibited at the Academy. The institution's world-class collection of American art continues to grow and provides what only a few other art institutions in the world offer: a rare combination of a world-class museum and an extraordinary faculty known for its commitment to students and for the stature and quality of its artistic work.

More than 200 years later, the Academy continues to carry on its traditions of studying the figure through rigorous training grounded in the teachings of Thomas Eakins and the great European art academies. In 2005, it received recognition for its educational endeavors through the National Medal of Arts, bestowed upon the Academy by the President of the United States.

**THE COLLECTION** The Academy's collection has been described by scholars and collectors as one of the three finest American art

collections in the world. The collection continues to grow and includes major works by many distinguished American artists as well as Academy faculty and alumni, both current and historic. The permanent collection ranges from colonial masters such as Robert Feke, John Singleton Copley, and Benjamin West, to major contemporary artists including Alice Neel, Helen Frankenthaler, Leon Golub, Betye Saar, H.C. Westermann, Jim Nutt, Adolf Gottlieb, Richard Diebenkorn, Red Grooms, and Faith Ringgold. In 2005, PAFA was the recipient of the Harold A. and Ann R. Sorgenti Collection of Contemporary African-American Art.

Many of the nation's most important artists were founders, teachers, or students at the Academy, including Charles Willson Peale, William Rush, Thomas Sully, Thomas Eakins, Thomas Anshutz, Mary Cassatt, Cecilia Beaux, William Merritt Chase, Henry Ossawa Tanner, Charles Grafly, Maxfield Parrish, Robert Henri, John Sloan, William Glackens, Everett Shinn, George Luks, Violet Oakley, Arthur B. Carles, Daniel Garber, and Robert Gwathmey – all of whom are represented in the Academy's collection.

**SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS** The Academy is a recognized leader in organizing exhibitions of historical and contemporary American fine art that are innovative in their approaches, scholarship, and presentation. Exhibitions are designed to educate, engage, excite, inspire, and challenge visitors of all ages and backgrounds.

Major recent exhibitions include *Barkley L. Hendricks: Birth of the Cool*; *Philagrafika 2010: The Graphic Unconscious*; *The Dorothy & Herbert Vogel Collection: Fifty Works for Fifty States*; and *Andy Warhol Polaroids and B&W Prints*.



Charles Willson Peale, *The Artist in His Museum*, 1827. Oil on canvas, 103 1/4 x 75 7/8 in. Gift of Mrs. Sarah Harrison (The Joseph Harrison Jr. Collection), 1978.12



**THE SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS** The Academy offers a four-year Certificate program with majors in its four disciplines of painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture; a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a major in Studio Art; a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in conjunction with the University of Pennsylvania; a Master of Fine Arts degree; and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate. Students have access to one of the world's foremost repositories of American art, housed in the grand Historic Landmark Building, designed by the firm of Frank Furness and George Hewitt, and the soaring Samuel M.V. Hamilton Building, both located on Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. With its cutting edge studio and classroom facilities, private studios for students, historic cast collection, and the opportunity for students to exhibit in a world-class museum, the Hamilton Building has helped propel the Academy to a position of national prestige.

**THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM** The four-year Certificate offers one of the world's strongest programs of training in the traditional fine arts. It emphasizes excellence in art-making skills and abilities, with a particular stress on drawing at all levels of the curriculum. During their first two years, students in the Certificate program receive training in both traditional and contemporary techniques of the Academy's four disciplines. Under the tutelage of professional artists, students master the art of cast drawing, life drawing and painting, anatomy, color, still life, figure modeling, etching, woodcut, and art history. Advanced students are given private studios and work with a renowned faculty of working artists, and exhibit their works in the *Annual Student Exhibition* in the Museum galleries.

**THE ACADEMY BFA** The newest member of the Academy's family of programs, the Academy BFA is the first all-Academy undergraduate degree program. The Academy offers liberal arts courses in addition to its well-known studio program. The Academy BFA is a 126-credit degree that permits the transfer of liberal arts as well as studio courses.

**THE BFA IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA** Certificate students also have the option of taking the coordinated BFA degree program in conjunction with the University of Pennsylvania, one of the nation's oldest Ivy League universities.

**MASTER OF FINE ARTS PROGRAM** A Master of Fine Arts degree is a two-year, intensive studio program involving daily interaction with resident and visiting faculty critics, outstanding graduate seminars and studio art courses, and a large and diverse visiting artist program. The curriculum includes regular private and group critiques, seminars, and a written thesis. Students focus on the traditional four disciplines, but with considerable deviations in approach.

**POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE** A one-year, 30 credit intense studio-based program, the Academy's Post-Baccalaureate Certificate addresses the needs of students with an undergraduate degree and studio experience who are looking to create a cohesive body of work, require additional studio experience for a graduate-level program, or those looking to become proficient in a different medium.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION** The Academy offers Continuing Education programs for students of all ages and skill levels. Professional faculty conduct courses and seminars for students venturing into art for the first time or for those looking to sharpen or rekindle their skills. Summer Academy for High School Students and the new Summer Academy for Teachers offer professional-level studio art programs for high school students who are exceptionally motivated, and to art teachers who are looking to refresh the creative spirit and find new inspiration in their own studio art work.

**PUBLIC PROGRAMS** Public programming, which includes gallery tours for museum visitors and school groups as well as weekend family workshops, are central to the Academy's academic beliefs. Programs serve audiences of all ages, and include lectures, symposia, panel discussions, summer camps, and hands-on art making workshops and classes. Teacher-oriented programs offer educators ways to incorporate art into everyday subjects, broadening the minds of their students and helping them to develop their creativity. Community-based programs serve diverse and underserved audiences, are offered in partnership with social services and other non-profit organizations, and work towards addressing social issues such as urban violence and literacy.