

Admissions and Applicant Information

Entrance Requirements

The MFA Steering Committee makes admissions decisions based on its belief, as determined upon review of all application materials and interviews, that a matriculating student has the capacity for graduate level work and is likely to thrive in the low residency environment. The Committee prefers that a student matriculating into the MFA program at Maine Media College holds a B.F.A., B.A., or B.S. degree (or the equivalent in the case of international students), has had extensive practical and/or academic experience in his or her area of endeavor, and is conversant with the history of his or her chosen media. In extraordinary circumstances the MFA Committee may admit an applicant who does not hold an undergraduate degree. In these instances, the applicant must provide persuasive and ample documented evidence of an education equivalent in breadth and depth.

Application Procedures

Materials

An individual interested in applying to the MFA program at Maine Media College must send the following materials to “MFA Admissions,” Maine Media College, 70 Camden Street, Rockport, Maine 04856:

- Completed application form and \$75 application fee (make checks payable to “Maine Media College”)
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary schools attended
- Resume
- An essay, approximately 500 words in length, describing: the applicant’s background and formative influences, either aesthetic or experiential, in his or her discipline, his or her interest in pursuing an MFA degree, and the applicant’s goals beyond graduate school
- Three letters of recommendation from academic and/or professional colleagues
- A portfolio, reel, or other documentation of work (see “Submission Guidelines” below)

Deadlines & Notification

Applications are accepted for consideration at any time, however the deadline for application submissions for fall retreat admissions is September 30 and for

spring retreat admissions the deadline is April 15. Admissions materials are reviewed by the core MFA faculty and acceptance decisions are made prior to retreats.

Applicants are notified of admissions decisions within three weeks of receipt of completed applications.

Submission Guidelines

An applicant may submit work on CD, DVD or as a print portfolio. An applicant with PAL formatted submissions is encouraged to convert them to NTSC. Web submissions, in any format, are welcome. Materials should be sent to “MFA Admissions,” Maine Media College, 70 Camden Street, Rockport, Maine 04856

An applicant in photography should submit 20 – 25 images that represent a single body of personal creative work made within the past three years. Additional professional or contract work is reviewed, but is of secondary importance. Image resolution for digital portfolios submitted on CD or DVD should not exceed 1500 pixels in any dimension.

An applicant in film or multimedia should submit up to 30 minutes of material representing personal creative work made within the past three years. Additional professional or contract work is reviewed, but is of secondary importance. Professional work should be labeled as such. All material presented must indicate the creative role of the applicant. Serving “below the line” on a project is not acceptable for application material. Writers may submit scripts as well as other writing samples. A multimedia applicant may submit a URL for web-based work.

Interview

A member of the MFA Committee may, in the interest of making informed decisions, contact an applicant upon receipt of the application materials to schedule a telephone interview.

The Retreat

Students accepted to the program who choose to attend the retreat will present work for critique and participate fully in all retreat activities. Students should be prepared to discuss their work, describe artistic goals and provide historical and cultural context for their work during critiques at the retreat.

Auditing

A prospective applicant may audit a retreat as an opportunity to experience this aspect of the program without making a commitment to apply.