



TWIGS Visual Arts Audition Instructions

Thank you for your interest in the TWIGS Visual Arts Program!

Baltimore City residents entering the 4th–8th grade may audition for the Visual Arts Program.

All Applicants:

All applicants must have submitted an **online application by Wednesday, May 10, 2023** in order to be eligible to audition. As part of the audition, all applicants are required to prepare **both**: 1. a collection of artwork (portfolio) and 2. a home test drawing. Details regarding both of these requirements will be detailed below.

Rising 4th & 5th Grade Applicants:

Rising 4th and 5th Grade Visual Arts applicants will be submitting the required information and artwork samples using the **Google Form** included in your application confirmation email. **Submissions must be uploaded and submitted via the Google Form by Sunday, May 14, 2023.** 4th and 5th Grade applicants will be judged solely on the work submitted to be considered for the program.

If preferred, **hard copies** of the applicant's portfolio may be submitted in-person. The instructions are included in this information sheet below.

Rising 6th - 8th Grade Applicants:

Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Visual Arts applicants will bring their required information and artwork samples to their in person audition on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Baltimore School for the Arts, 712 Cathedral Street, 21201. They should bring their **original artwork** to the audition (not copies). They will take their portfolio work home with them. The only exception is their Home Test Drawing should be a **copy** as this will be kept.

Auditions will be held by appointment only. **Your child's audition appointment time will be sent out via email no later than one week prior to Audition Week.** During the in person audition, students will be guided through drawing exercises as a group. Students should be prepared to discuss the contents of their portfolio individually with faculty.

Please email TWIGS@bsfa.org with any questions.

~Please read through all instructions carefully~

Portfolio Requirements for All Applicants:

Students should prepare a portfolio of their artwork to submit either online (4th & 5th Grade) or in-person (6th, 7th, & 8th Grade). All portfolio work should have been created by the applicant personally and should represent their best efforts. Work from home, school, or other outside art classes is acceptable and can include drawings, paintings, ceramics, prints, weavings, metal, or woodworking. Portfolios will be judged on quality of engagement, originality and creativity, level of difficulty, and overall skill. For online submissions, any 3-D work can be photographed and submitted for review as well.

Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders should bring their **original artwork** to the audition (not copies). They will take their portfolio work home with them.

Home Test Drawing Requirements for All Applicants:

All Visual Arts TWIGS applicants must complete the home drawing test as a part of their audition. Rising 4th and 5th graders will submit their drawing via Google Form. Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will bring their drawing to their in person audition. **Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders should bring in a copy of their Home Test Drawing** as this will be kept by Visual Arts faculty for ongoing review.

a. Set up a still life of 5-10 household objects that includes the following:

- 1 very shiny or slightly reflective object
- 1 completely white object
- 1 completely transparent object
- 1 square / rectangular object or (some type of box or large book)
- 1 piece of fabric or drapery about the size of a large shirt or pillow case

Arrange the objects in an interesting way so that they work together without being too crowded or hiding objects too much.

You can add lighting from a window, desk lamp or shop light to make the objects and shadows look more interesting.

(You may want to Google “still life drawing” to get ideas on how to arrange your still life at home.)

b. Draw your still life on a plain white sheet of paper.

You may use any drawing material that you like. It can be in black and white or in color.

Draw your still life as best you can from **direct observation**.

Do not draw from photographs or use any kind of projection tools.

- c. **Make a good quality copy, scan or photo of your finished drawing to upload or include with your portfolio.**

In the Google Form, use the section titled “Upload Your Child’s Home Test Drawing” to upload your drawing.

The Visual Arts Rising 4th & 5th Grade audition online submission Google Form has four parts:

1. General information questions
2. A current photo of the applicant
3. Completed home test drawing
4. Portfolio of 5-10 works, of any kind, of the applicant’s choosing

Online Submission:

Once all materials are gathered, please go to your application confirmation email and click the link for the TWIGS 4th and 5th Grade Visual Arts Audition 2023 Google Form. You will answer questions and upload materials to this form. ***You must complete this form including all required material uploads OR complete hard copy material drop-off (instructions below) to be considered for the program.***

Hard Copy Portfolio Submission:

You may drop off hard copies or photos of the original works to BSA from **May 10 - May 12, 2023 during regular school hours between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.**

Please make sure to include the following:

- Completed General Information Hard Copy Sheet (at the bottom of these instructions)
- Copy of the completed home test drawing
- Copies of the additional selection of 5-10 work samples
- A current photo of the applicant

If you are dropping off application materials, please include COPIES ONLY. **Do not include original work of any kind as portfolio submissions will not be returned.**

These may be placed in a large sealed envelope with the applicant’s name, grade and “TWIGS Visual Arts Auditions” printed clearly on the outside. Please do not fold or roll work samples. All copies must be signed by the applicant. Please do not send work in additional folders, plastic sleeves, or page portfolios.

~For Hard Copy Drop-off Only: Print and complete this to include with your portfolio~

Audition General Information Sheet

Child's Name _____

Child's Current Home Address

Child's Current School _____

Has your child attended TWIGS in the past or is your child a current TWIGS student? (circle) Yes No

Parent/Guardian Name(s)

Best contact email for Parent/Guardian

Child's Grade in Fall 2023* *(please note - NOT this year's grade level)*
