



KENTUCKY COLLEGE OF
ART + DESIGN AT
SPALDING UNIVERSITY

KyCAD at a Glance

Our mission

The Kentucky College of Art + Design at Spalding University opens the door for aspiring creative spirits to provide tomorrow's creative solutions.

Our vision

KyCAD will become a nationally respected institution that produces dynamic individuals who change the world through creative ideas.

Our values

Excellence: We set the highest standards to develop critical and creative thinkers.

Diversity: KyCAD believes that a diverse set of experiences, perspectives and backgrounds is crucial to unlocking innovation and creativity.

Exploration: We are not complacent. We search for new perspectives and ways of improving how “things have always been done.” We celebrate the qualities of curiosity, adventure and a “can do” attitude.

Ambition: We harness the power of art and design to break down barriers and advance the individual, the community and the world—both socially and economically.

Exceptional value: Respecting our students' resources, we deliver an experience that is second to none—ensuring that each student is prepared for a career anchored in creativity.



Painting by student Sam Adair

We Believe.



The history of KyCAD: Building on a dream

During his career teaching at the Maryland Institute College of Art and Pratt Institute in New York, Louisville native Churchill Davenport was stunned by how many talented students had left Kentucky to attend art school in distant cities—with no intentions of returning home. One day, he thought, he'd like to reverse this trend.



Churchill returned to Louisville in 2008 and spent the first two years gaining financial support from civic leaders and calling upon his network of artists and educators to help design a unique curriculum. In 2011 the doors of the Kentucky School of Art opened in the basement of the 21c Museum Hotel in downtown Louisville. It quickly outgrew the space.

Churchill then connected with Spalding University President Tori Murden McClure, who appreciated the vision and the positive change a world-class art school could bring both to the city and to young lives. She and the Spalding Board of Trustees offered to incubate the art school until it could fully stand on its own.

In its first five years, the school grew 1,500 percent—from 9 to over 130 students. Churchill's vision has undoubtedly tapped into a compelling need.

KyCAD seeks to harness the power of art and design to break down barriers and advance the individual, the community and the world—both socially and economically.

We're going to build a top-10 art college right here in Louisville, Ky.

Churchill Davenport



Location: the historic Spalding University campus in the South Broadway (SoBro) neighborhood of downtown Louisville, Ky.

Organization: 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation created in 2011. Housed within Spalding University since 2012.

Governance: Board of Directors.

Degree Offered: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art.

Areas of Study: Digital Media, General Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Interdisciplinary Sculpture, and Painting and Drawing.

Concentrations include Pre-Art Therapy and Illustration.

Offerings: Lunch Lecture Series, Visiting Artists Program, workshops and special guest critics, weekly Open Model Sessions, student studio space, 849 Gallery exhibitions, collaborative art events, internships and residencies.

Annual Budget: 2016–2017: \$3 million.

KyCAD Faculty & Staff: 13 faculty—all with graduate degrees from highly regarded art schools—plus 16 staff



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