

Distinguished Artists Program

2016 Presentation & Selection Process

Schedule of Events

Saturday, January 30

Attire: Business Professional

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Registration (<i>Bonta Admission Center</i>)
9:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.	Morning presentations and campus tours
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon (<i>Baldwin Hall</i>)
1:20 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Afternoon presentations and campus tours

Need overnight accommodations? Blocks of rooms are available at:
Holiday Inn (Jackson, MI): 517-789-9600 (group name: Albion College)
Holiday Inn Express (Marshall, MI): 269-789-9301 (group name: Albion College)

Selection Criteria

Albion College faculty members select Distinguished Artist Scholarship recipients using the following criteria:

1. The Quality of Your Presentation, Performance and/or Portfolio of Works – Choose the option that will allow you to best demonstrate your intellectual curiosity, academic interests, artistic achievement and future potential for growth at Albion College.
2. Extracurricular Record – We recognize that students often combine superior scholarship with other interests, unique talents or achievements. Please come prepared to talk about yourself and your accomplishments– your motivation, your inspiration, and your passion for the fine arts.

Notification

Students selected as a Distinguished Artist will be **notified by March 14th**. Final results will be announced publicly for those recipients who have made the commitment to attend Albion College.

Options for Presentation

Plan to register for this event as soon as you decide to participate - space is limited. Register online at: <https://apply.albion.edu/register/distinguishedartists>. Your registration must be received by **Monday, January 11**. This guide will help you select your preferred presentation option. Once you are registered, the Distinguished Artists Program Presentation Plan Form will be available on your Albion College Applicant Status Page (often referred to your “Albion student portal”). You are asked to complete and submit this form no later than **Thursday, January 21**. This plan helps us match your interests with our faculty members and allows us to plan for your technology needs. A paper copy of the Presentation Plan Form is included in this mailing for reference. We will contact you upon receipt of your plan to finalize your participation arrangements.

Option 1: Art

Bring a portfolio of your best works, including 10-15 art works. These works may be in any medium or multiple media – drawing, painting, printmaking, book arts, photography, computer art, ceramics, sculpture, and more. This work should be a representation of who you are as an artist; this can include work you’ve done in class as well as independently. If your materials are vulnerable or oversized, you can photograph your work and bring a CD containing the images.

In addition, please bring a sketchbook, if you keep one; a “sketchbook” could be in the form of a traditional book of drawings, a journal, visual scrapbook or even a well designed blog or website.

When designing your presentation, it may be helpful to consider the following questions:

- What artists did I draw upon for inspiration?
- What is my creative process?
- What am I trying to communicate with my art?
- Why did I choose the respective media/forms to express my ideas?

Portfolio review centers on a discussion of your works, including your experiences, influences and motivation. Your presentation and discussion will last about 15 minutes, with 15 additional minutes allotted for questions by the faculty members.

Option 2: Art History

Submit a portfolio of 4-5 pieces of art historical written work, not to exceed 25 pages. Papers prepared for a humanities or an English class may be substituted. Your work should demonstrate your ability to conduct research and prepare a coherent scholarly paper. Please come prepared to discuss your written work and your scholarly process.

Option 3: Creative Writing

Works may take the form of poetry or prose, but please limit your submission to either 10-15 pages (single space, 12 point font) of poetry or 20 pages (double space, 12 point font) of prose (fiction, memoir, personal essay, etc.). Your work should represent your artistic ability; it can include pieces you have done in class as well as independently. On the day of the competition, please bring a draft and revision of a single poem or short prose passage (5 copies of each version).

Please come prepared to read briefly from your work (approximately 5 minutes) and to use your draft/revision to discuss your creative process. When designing your presentation, it may be helpful to consider the following questions:

- What is the theme of my writing?
- What authors did I draw upon for inspiration?
- What is my writing process?
- What am I trying to communicate with my writing?
- Why did I choose the respective forms (prose, poetry, etc.) to express my ideas?

Portfolio review centers on a discussion of your works, including your experiences, influences and motivation. Your presentation and discussion will last about 15 minutes, with 15 additional minutes allotted for questions by the faculty members.

You must submit your works by January 21, one full week prior to the event.

Option 4: Music

The suggested format for the music competition is a short lecture-recital model. Please plan to perform live 8-12 minutes of music. Please see the Music Department's audition suggestions for guidelines specific to particular instruments: <http://www.albion.edu/academics/departments/music/audition-information>.

Also, be prepared to discuss your understanding of the pieces you've chosen to perform, putting them into a context for your audience in the same way that written program notes often accompany a concert performance. For example, you might discuss the composers' background, historical period, circumstances of composition, genre, text, or programmatic considerations. You could also discuss your technical or interpretive process in learning the pieces: what you learned through practicing and mastering them, or what

your interpretive goals for the pieces are, and how those goals may have changed as you studied the pieces over time.

When designing your presentation, it may be helpful to consider the following questions:

- What do I know about the composer, or the influence the composer has had on my own work?
- What were the political, moral, spiritual, ethical or sociological issues of the times that may have impacted the composer, or on the work itself?
- Why is this piece important?
- Are there other ways to perform the piece?
- Who else has created an influential interpretation?

Review centers on a discussion of your performance, including your experiences, influences and motivation. Your presentation and discussion will last about 15 minutes, with 15 additional minutes allotted for questions by the faculty members.

You must submit a copy of your musical accompaniment's and scores for the judges by January 21, one full week prior to the event.

Option 5: Theatre

You may choose to showcase your acting ability or your creativity in technical theater: costume design or construction, lighting, sound, scene design, and/or stage management. For a live performance, please come prepared to perform either a.) two contrasting monologues or b.) one monologue and one 32-bar song.

If you prefer to showcase your talent in design or stage management, plan to bring a portfolio of photographs and/or original materials. Materials may be from a realized production or may be a project you create using one of the following plays as the basis: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare, *Antigone* by Sophocles, *Cabaret* by Isherwood with Lyrics by Kander and Ebb, or *The Odd Couple* by Neil Simon.

Please come prepared to discuss your process and your inspiration. When designing your presentation, it may be helpful to consider one or more of the following questions:

- Who is my muse?
- What artists did I draw upon for inspiration?
- What are my theatre rituals?
- Why did I choose the respective media/forms to express my ideas?
- What do I know about the playwright, or the influence the playwright has had on my own work?
- What were the political, moral, spiritual, ethical or sociological issues of the times that may have impacted the playwright, or on the work itself?
- Why is this piece important?
- Are there other ways to perform the piece?

Performance or portfolio review centers on a discussion of your performance/works, including your experiences, influences and motivation. Your presentation and discussion will last about 15 minutes, with 15 additional minutes allotted for questions by the faculty members.

There will be no live accompaniment, therefore, you must bring your music on a CD, if performing a song.

Option 6: Integrated Arts

This option is for students who want to showcase their artistic abilities across a variety of disciplines in the arts. Such a presentation might take the form of film, visual poetry, playwriting, singer-songwriter or another approach. Please refer to the discipline guidelines above for page limit requirements, art portfolio expectations, etc. and be sure to contact us with specific questions.

Come prepared to perform and/or exhibit your works. You will also be asked to discuss your process, your inspiration and your choice of genres.

The Integrated Arts presentation will revolve around a discussion of your performance/works, including your experiences, influences and motivation. Your presentation and discussion will last about 15 minutes, with 15 additional minutes allotted for questions by the faculty members.

If appropriate, you must submit your writing and/or musical accompaniments/scores by January 21, one full week prior to the event. If your materials are vulnerable or oversized, you can photograph your work and bring a CD containing the images.

Distinguished Artist Program

Tips on What to Expect and How to Prepare for the Competition

How Much Time Will I Have?

The presentation schedule is tightly managed - you will have a total of 30 minutes to present and respond to questions. The average presentation/article discussion/portfolio discussion takes about 15 minutes followed by 15 minutes of questions and comments by the faculty audience members. We allow 10 minutes for take-down and set-up for the next presenter. Be prepared to respond to questions about your interests and achievements. No student may exceed the 30 minute presentation time.

Who is In the Audience during My Presentation?

Your audience will be a small group of faculty members and a room host. The faculty will follow a carefully selected set of evaluation techniques and record their impressions of your presentation. Faculty members and the room host will describe your performance at the final selection meeting.

How Do I Decide Which of The Six Options Is Right for Me?

Choose the option that will best allow you to demonstrate your creative and intellectual abilities, and also one that will illustrate how you will be a positive addition to the Albion College community. Every participant is a high achiever, so you need to identify how to demonstrate your abilities and potential in a way that distinguishes you from others.

Some questions that might guide your decision include: What academic disciplines are you most interested in studying? What do you enjoy talking about? What subject(s) are you considering for a major? Have you worked on a significant research project or paper and/or an artistic project that you'd like to tell us about?

How Will I Be Evaluated?

Our faculty members look for specific content substance and expertise, and assess the overall quality of your performance, presentation and/or discussion. Our faculty members look at the following general characteristics of every competitor:

- Overall impression
- Quality of works or performance
- Depth of exploration
- Organization of ideas; synthesis and progression of concepts
- Creativity and creative process
- Ability to articulate influences
- Individual vision and ability to explain motivation for approach
- Intellectual curiosity
- Academic goals
- Student responses to faculty questions
- Passion for the subject
- Potential for artistic and academic excellence and leadership
- Unique or special characteristics



Distinguished Awards Program FAQ's

Why Do We Offer Our Distinguished Artist Program?

- This opportunity helps you understand our hands-on, interdisciplinary approach to the liberal arts and sciences.
- The process of selecting your method of participation, preparing for the event and then participating helps you experience the teaching and learning environment at Albion first-hand. You will also receive valuable feedback and encouragement from your panel of faculty members.
- The most effective way for us to identify promising artists is through in-person participation and dialog. This is your opportunity to show our faculty more about your future potential than will be apparent in your admission application and essay.

What Programs Will You Offer For Me And My Parents When I am Not Presenting?

There will be a variety of activities during the day including student panels, a conversation with the VP for Enrollment an opportunity to learn more about financing an Albion education, quiet spaces for practicing, a stress free zone in the Honors Observatory, campus tours and more. We also encourage our participants to meet other participants and socialize over light refreshments.

How Will I Find My Presentation Room?

You will be escorted from the registration area to your presentation room 10 minutes prior to your scheduled time. You will enter your room at the appointed time and have a total of 40 minutes. Your participation and the faculty members' questions will last a total of 30 minutes, allowing time to set up and pack up your materials.

What Questions Should I Expect From The Faculty Members Who Attend My Presentation?

In addition to questions about your presentation, be prepared to talk about your accomplishments and future goals. You may also ask questions about academic opportunities.

When Will I Be Notified Of The Judges' Decision?

You will receive a letter from the admission office by March 14th.

Who Can I Talk With If I Have Questions About This Program Or My Participation?

Your Albion College Admission Counselor can help you with questions. In addition, your counselor can put you in contact with a student mentor who can help answer your questions. Please contact admission@albion.edu or call 800.858.6770.

Distinguished Artists Program

Presentation Plan

(Must complete online by: Thursday, January 21)

Form can be found at <https://apply.albion.edu/register/distinguishedartists>

Student Name: _____ | Last | First | Middle | Preferred Name

Home Address: _____ | Number and Street | Apartment No.

_____ | City | State | ZIP

Home Phone: (____) ____ - ____ **Cell Phone:** (____) ____ - ____

E-mail: _____

High School Name: _____

Potential Major(s): _____

Select one of the following options and complete the information requested:

Option 1: Art

Bring a portfolio of your best works, including 10-15 art works.

Which medium (or media) will you showcase in your portfolio? Select all that apply:

Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Book Arts, Photography, Computer Art, Ceramics, Sculpture, Other (please explain).

Please provide a brief description of your portfolio:

Option 2: Art History

Submit a portfolio of 4-5 pieces of art historical written work, not to exceed 25 pages.

Papers prepared for a humanities or an English class may be substituted. Your work should demonstrate your ability to conduct research and prepare a coherent scholarly paper. Please come prepared to discuss your written work and your scholarly process.

Please provide a brief description of your portfolio:

Option 3: Creative Writing

Works may take the form of poetry or prose, but please limit your submission to either 10-15 pages of poetry or 25 pages of prose in any genre. You must submit your works by January 22, one full week prior to the competition. On the day of the competition, please bring a draft and revision of a single poem or short prose passage (5 copies of each version).

Please provide a brief description of your portfolio:

Option 4: Music

The suggested format for the music competition is a short lecture-recital model. Please plan to perform about 8-12 minutes of music. You must submit your musical arrangements by January 22, one full week prior to the competition.

Please indicate your instrument: Voice, Flute, Oboe, Organ, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Euphonium, Trombone, Tuba, Percussion, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp, Guitar, Piano, Other (please explain).

The Albion College Music Department makes every effort to provide each student with an accompanist for auditions. Each student is allotted time to rehearse with the accompanist prior to the audition. If you have your own accompanist, you are welcome to bring him/her -- please let us know. You must submit your musical arrangements by January 22, one full week prior to the competition.

I will be providing my own accompanist. Yes No

Please provide a brief description of your performance:

Option 5: Theatre

You may choose to showcase your acting ability or your creativity in costume design or construction, lighting, sound, scene design, or stage management. You must bring your music on a iPod or CD if performing a song.

Please provide a brief description of your performance or portfolio:

Option 6: Integrated Arts

This option is for students who want to showcase their artistic abilities across a variety of art disciplines. Such a presentation might take the form of film, playwriting, singer-songwriter, musical theatre, performance art, visual poetry or another approach. Come prepared to perform and/or exhibit your works. You must submit your writing and/or musical arrangements by January 22, one full week prior to the competition.

Please provide a brief description of your performance/portfolio and the media, genre and/or instruments it will involve:

Will you need an accompanist? Yes No

If yes, will you be providing your own accompanist? Yes No

My title for this presentation is (required): _____

Will you require technology for your presentation?

If yes, I will use a PC Mac or iPad

I will bring the following equipment (i.e. CD, Flash drive, iPod, Mac Computer, HDMI cable, adapter, etc.):

In addition, I will need the following equipment (i.e. DVD/TV, HDMI cable, Easels (indicate #), etc.):

Albion College Office of Admission
611 E. Porter St.
Albion, MI 49224

Email: admission@albion.edu
Phone: (800) 858-6770
Fax: (517) 629-0569