



** Please note – the information contained in this handout is accurate as at January 2011. Information regarding employment prospects/salary/growth is based on information derived from www.skillsinfo.gov.au, www.joboutlook.gov.au and Careers and Employment's own research.

2011

Please note: the information contained in this document was current as of January 2011. Refer to www.swinburne.edu.au/courses/ for the most recent updates. Refer to the School of Visual, Performing and Circus Arts website www.tafe.swinburne.edu.au/visual/ for further information and a list of the courses offered in this area.

Industry Overview

This broad study area encompasses courses that focus on a diverse assortment of specialisations. Ideal for those who don't fancy the idea of a typical desk job, a course in this field allows students to harness their natural creativity and contribute to the arts both locally and globally.

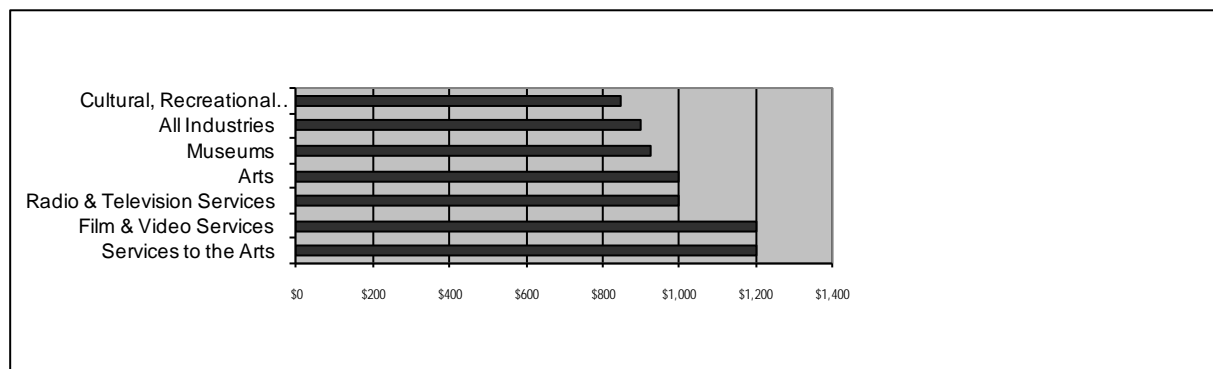
For further market and industry information relating to your discipline, please refer to:

- www.deewr.gov.au
- www.jobguide.deewr.gov.au
- www.joboutlook.gov.au
- www.myfuture.edu.au
- www.skillsaustralia.gov.au
- www.skillsinfo.gov.au

Swinburne University of Technology's TAFE division has a longstanding reputation for the quality of its Arts graduates, and is well regarded for the range of courses offered across the Lilydale, Prahran and Wantirna campuses. Specialist facilities for arts students include painting and drawing studios, photographic facilities, and digital media laboratories including an editing suite for video, printing presses and sculpture facilities including welding, casting and outdoor areas.

The Department of Arts also operates The David Williamson Theatre and two galleries, Gallery 369 and Gallery PB. The Department maintains valuable industry links, with teaching staff maintaining a significant involvement and practice in the arts. Courses train students for industry employment, as well as providing a foundation for further study.

Cultural and Recreational Services Sector - Average Weekly Earnings (Full Time and Before Tax)



Source: ABS Employee Earnings, Benefits &

Costume

Courses in Costume such as the *Diploma of Costume for Performance* are designed for students who wish to pursue or enhance their careers as theatre technicians in the area of costume making and related areas. This course combines theory, practical studies, industry simulation, and industrial placement to enhance students' overall knowledge, experience and networks. Career opportunities available to graduates are broad-based within the theatre, television and film industry, and extend to costume hire outlets, costume fashion promotions, festivals and creative novelty wear outlets. Fashion designers currently have good employment prospects with slight growth expected over the next five years.

Job titles may include the following:

- Clothing patternmaker
- Costume Designer
- Fashion Designer
- Milliner
- Set production worker
- Tailor
- Wardrobe Assistant

Specialist Make-Up Services

Make-up artists currently have average employment prospects and employment in this industry is expected to grow strongly to 2014-15. Graduates of the *Diploma of Specialist Make-Up Services* gain application skills in prosthetics, special effects, stage, photographic, bridal, period, television, film and fashion make-up. They also gain skills in hairstyling, facial hair, manufacture and wig styling and maintenance. Graduates may gain employment in the film, television, theatre, photographic, beauty therapy and fashion industries.

Job titles may include the following:

- Makeup Artist – Photographic, Fashion and Special Events
- Makeup Artist – Theatrical and Performance

Theatre Arts

Theatre technicians currently have average employment prospects, with the employment market expected to remain steady over the next five years. Students completing the *Diploma of Theatre Arts* gain skills necessary to organise a performance, event or project and undertake the associated administrative tasks. The course is considered ideal for people wanting a broad-based vocational qualification enabling them to seek work in the theatre and entertainment industry. The course also offers individuals a chance to establish their own companies and work on a range of event projects. The industry placement provides valuable on-the-job experience. Employment may be gained as a theatre worker in a small company, or on specific projects with other artists.

Job titles may include the following:

- Actor/Entertainer
- Event management for theatre
- Music Director
- Performing arts technician
- Scriptwriter
- Theatre performer/director

Visual Arts

Graduates of the *Diploma of Visual Art*, after specialising in Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking or Photography (black and white, video, Photoshop and film), will find rewarding careers in the visual arts industries where traditional practices converge with new video and digital technologies. Overall, employment for Visual Arts and Crafts Professionals to 2014-15 is expected to remain relatively steady, employment for Photographers to 2014-15 is expected to grow strongly, however unemployment for photographers is relatively high. Employment in this small occupation (9 000 in November 2009) remained relatively steady in the past five years, and fell

markedly in the long-term (ten years), but with small occupations employment estimates can fluctuate. Visual arts and craft professionals have below average employment prospects, thus it is essential to develop strong networks within the visual arts industry.

Most Australian artists and craftspeople operate their art practice under a sole trader business model. This model may mean working across a number of employment options including time working as a studio artist, accepting commissions or short-term assignments, working as an artist-in-residence, developing concepts that require grant funding, licensing intellectual property, developing manufacturing or multiple production concepts and creating work for exhibitions, awards and other professional opportunities.

Job titles may include the following:

- Art Therapist
- Artist/Cartoonist
- Exhibition Designer
- Painter/Sculptor
- Photographer
- Photostylist
- Printmaker
- Retail Merchandiser
- Retail Store Visual Merchandiser
- Studio artist
- Visual Merchandising Consultant

Circus Arts

Entertainers currently have average employment prospects, but employment in this field is expected to grow slightly over the next five years. The National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) has been established at Swinburne as a national centre of excellence for professional training in circus arts. Students interested in careers within the circus and physical theatre industries, in stunt work, corporate entertainment or festivals, can choose from a range of available courses. Swinburne University offers a *Bachelor of Circus Arts* through NICA; the degree is structured over 3 years, and is based on vertical integration of skills and methodology. These skills are introduced in the embedded two-year TAFE award, then built on in the Bachelor year. Job prospects for Actors, Dancers and Other Entertainers are average. Employment for Actors, Dancers and Other Entertainers to 2014-15 is expected to grow moderately. Employment in this small occupation (6 500 in November 2009) rose very strongly in the past five years.

Job titles may include the following:

- Circus Performer
- Actor
- Choreographer
- Dancer
- Entertainer – Events, Festivals
- Stunt Worker

Live Production, Theatre and Events (Technical Production)

The *Diploma of Live Production, Theatre and Events (Technical Production)* reflects the range of job skills needed to become a multi-skilled technician to work in areas such as drama, musical and dance shows. Graduates will have also gained a fundamental understanding of the technical considerations required when implementing any production or event for small and large venues such as lighting, audio and staging within the entertainment industry. Job prospects for Performing Arts Technicians are average. Employment for Performing Arts Technicians to 2014-15 is expected to grow strongly. Employment in this medium sized occupation (16 100 in November 2009) rose very strongly in the past five years, and in the long-term (ten years).

Job titles may include the following:

- Theatre Technician
- Theatre Production Assistant/Coordinator/Manager
- Set Designer
- Lighting Technician
- Audio Technician
- Staging Technician

Further Education and Pathways

For a full list of credit pathways and requirements see the Swinburne website:

www.future.swinburne.edu.au/pathways

For entry and admission requirements: www.swinburne.edu.au/courses

References and Relevant Websites

- www.myfuture.com.au
- www.joboutlook.gov.au
- www.skillsinfo.gov.au
- www.visualarts.net.au
- www.artshub.com.au

What help does Swinburne Careers and Employment offer?

Career Services

- Career Counselling for Students
- Plan Skills Development
- Career Seminars/Workshops for Students
- Resume and Cover Letter Checks daily at Hawthorn 1:30pm-2:30pm, please refer to website for other campus days.
- Interview Practice daily at Hawthorn at 3:00pm sharp, please refer to website for other campus days.

Career Resources

- Career Resource Library
- Job Search Handouts
- Interactive Career Planning
- What Can I Do With TAFE Qualifications/My Degree (see website for resource)

SwinEmploy Employment Service

- All job advertisements for graduate placements, casual, vacation, part-time and full-time employment
- Links to employer websites
- Enables students to book online for events such as workshops, employer information sessions and interviews
- Access to Going Global (over 10,000 job vacancies listed across Europe, Asia-Pacific, UK and US. Global key employer directories, work permits & visa regulations, country-specific cultural & interviewing advice & more)

Download Careers and Employment job search handouts from SwinEmploy, including:

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| ➤ Addressing Selection Criteria | ➤ Job Hunting |
| ➤ Assessment Centres | ➤ Networking: What Is It and How Do You Do It? |
| ➤ Cover Letters or Letters of Application | ➤ Online Applications |
| ➤ Curriculum Vitae or Resume | ➤ Psychometric Tests |
| ➤ Employer Expectations of Graduates | ➤ Skills and Attributes |
| ➤ Interviews - How to Plan, Prepare and Perform | ➤ Thinking About Changing Your Course? |
| ➤ Informational Interviewing | ➤ Tips for facing the work environment and your first professional job |

Careers & Employment

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