

WORKING IN THE ARTS

May 2024

Jobs in the arts fall into 2 basic categories: performing arts and visual arts. Museums and art galleries usually hire those with background and skills in the visual arts. Places that entertain (e.g. theme parks, jazz clubs, cruise ships) are good choices for those with talent in the performing arts. Some employers such as a performing arts center or arts education program may hire in both areas.

VISUAL ARTS:

Design plus background in journalism can lead to careers in magazine design. Computer knowledge combined with design can create careers in graphic design, web design, and multimedia. Design plus manufacturing knowledge suggests industrial or package design. Design plus retail can point to the field of visual merchandising. Love of theatre plus design can lead to set design or costume design. Finally, design plus business opens up possibilities in advertising agencies, interior design firms and design/marketing agencies.

Most large interior design firms in the Bay Area are in San Francisco:

Gensler	Gensler Design www.gensler.com	220 Montgomery St. #200, SF	(415) 433-3700
Smith Group	SmithGroup Design www.smithgroup.com	301 Battery St. 4 th floor, SF	(415) 227-0100
IA Interior Architects	www.interiorarchitects.com	500 Samson St., 8 th floor, SF	(415) 434-3305
Huntsman Architectural Group	huntsmanag.com	50 California St., SF	(415) 394-1212

A few are in the East Bay:

MBH Architects Inc.	MBH Architects: Firm	960 Atlantic Ave., Alameda	(510) 865-8663
Ratcliff	Ratcliff Architects	5856 Doyle Street, Emeryville	(510) 899- 6400
MSA Architecture & Design	msasf.com	360 22 nd St. #800, Oakland	(415) 541-0977
Douglah Designs	www.douglahdesigns.com	3535 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette	(925) 284-1772; (925) 284-4560

Those with interest and skill in the visual arts can also find work as jewelers, photographers, etchers & engravers, bakers & ice sculptors, framers, caterers, hairstylists, make up artists & manicurists, film animators, etc. Museums such as San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California Academy of Sciences, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, The Exploratorium, Asian Art Museum, Lawrence Hall of Science, Oakland Museum of California, Museum of the African Diaspora, Mexican Museum, BAMPFA and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts are major employers Arts or crafts stores such as Michael's also provide employment.

PERFORMING ARTS:

There are more than one thousand performing arts related venues and services in the SF Bay Area. They include theatres and arenas, performance centers operated by cities or colleges, businesses that book entertainment, stores that sell theatrical or musical supplies, ballet, theater, and opera companies, symphonies and concert halls.

FOR LOCAL PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS JOB POSSIBILITIES:

- www.apecconcerts.com Another Planet promotes the Greek Theater, Fox Theater, Bill Graham Civic etc. as well as major festivals in San Francisco such as Outside Lands Music & Art Festival
- www.act-sf.org American Conservatory Theatre career and volunteer positions (415) 834-3200
- www.asianart.org Asian Art Museum 200, Larkin St., San Francisco 94102 (415) 581-3500
- www.berkeleyrep.org Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berkeley, CA (510) 647-2900
- www.calshakes.org 701 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; Bruns Theater in Orinda (510) 548-9666
- www.calperformances.org Hires: Through U.C. Berkeley <https://jobs.berkeley.edu> (510) 642-0212
- www.famsf.org Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (415) 750-3600
- www.thefreight.org Freight and Salvage Coffee House music organization in Berkeley (510) 644-2020
- www.sapcenter.com Sap Center in San Jose for concerts & jobs with San Jose Sharks (408) 287-7070
- www.lesherartscenter.org Leshner Arts Center 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, CA (925) 295-1400

- www.livenationentertainment.com Live Nation – select “work at LN” (800) 653-8000
- www.fortmason.org Center for Arts and Culture in San Francisco on Marina Blvd. (415) 345-7500
- www.headlands.org Center for the Arts 944 Simmonds Rd., Sausalito, CA (415) 331-2787
- www.theoaklandarena.com and Oakland Alameda Coliseum (510) 569-2121
- www.paramounttheatre.com of the Arts, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, CA 510) 893-2300
- www.sfmoma.org San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St., SF 94103 (415) 357-4000
- www.smuinballet.org Smuin Ballet 44 Gough St. #103, SF, CA 94103 (415) 556-5000
- www.sfwmpac.org San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center
- www.sfwarmemorial.org hires through City & County of San Francisco: www.sfballet.org (415) 861-5600; www.sfopera.com (415) 864-3330; and www.sfsymphony.org (415) 864-6000; perform there
- www.broadwaysf.com manages Golden Gate and Orpheum Theatres
- www.ybca.org Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St., SF, CA 94103 (415) 978-2700

STAFFING AGENCIES, WEBSITES AND OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

- www.24seventalent.com 49 Geary St., #402, SF Designers, Digital, Social Media, etc. (415) 989-2424
- www.80twenty.com 369 Pine St. #208, SF Staffing for Marketing, Creative and Sales (415) 870-1614
- www.creativecircle.com 595 Market St., Suite 2400, SF Digital Creative Staffing agency (415) 615- 9999
- www.roberthalf.com The Creative Group – [Our Brands - The Creative Group](#) | [Robert Half](#) (800) 397-7788
- Offices: 2603 Camino Ramon, Bishop Ranch 3, San Ramon (510) 342-9967
- 1999 Harrison Street #1950, Oakland (510) 899-4631; 50 California St. 10th floor, SF (415) 835-4419
- www.reeldirectory.com Reel Directory of Northern California –
- Listings for those involved in local film, video, multimedia, and other artistic areas.
- www.theatrebayarea.org 499 Alabama St. #450, SF (415) 430-1140
- Local Theatre Community. Must be a member for Job Listings, Auditions & Workshops:

Websites including online and freelancing opportunities:

- www.craigslist.org - search under “art/media/design” or “tv/film/video” or “gigs”
- www.bavc.org - website for the Bay Area Video Coalition
- www.calmuseums.org - Museum Association posts jobs on its site
- www.showbizjobs.com - jobs in film, television, recording, multimedia & attractions
- www.entertainmentcareers.net lists jobs in the film industry; most are in the Los Angeles area
- www.tvjobs.com - jobs in the broadcast industry
- www.indeed.com - Search under “art”, “design”, “museum”, “musician”, “performer” etc.
- www.glassdoor.com - Search under “creative and other titles; joining makes searching better
- www.aam-us.org - American Alliance of Museums has a job search & resources section
- www.playbill.com - technical and performing theatre jobs, sort by state
- www.etsy.com - example of place to sell arts and crafts online
- www.fiverr.com - Select “become a seller” to join their freelance community
- www.freelancer.com - Select “earn money freelancing”
- www.flexjobs.com - remote, hybrid and flex jobs
- www.artsthread.com - launchpad for art & design students/graduated worldwide
- www.behance.net - display portfolios and connect with employers online
- www.coroflot.com - posts designer jobs and displays bios of designers
- www.cafepress.com - upload and sell your original designs and artwork
- www.portfolio.adobe.com - portfolio websites free with creative cloud
- www.crevado.com - place to create your online portfolio for free
- [28 Online Jobs for Artists That Pay for Your Creativity - ivetriedthat](#) - very useful blog