

FOTO (if anyone has a nice image from the Gaza market please let me know)

**Art**

**Futures**

**Together**

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ACTION PLAN 2023 – 2027 // The Art Academy – Department of contemporary Art

## **INTRODUCTION**

This Action Plan, covering the period 2023-27, is linked to the University of Bergen's overall strategy and to the strategy of the Faculty of Fine Art, Music, and Design. It provides direction for our academic activities, describes specific objectives, priorities, and tasks, and is supplemented by the faculty's action plans.

### **Vision:**

The Art Academy aims to provide an ever-evolving, relevant, compassionate, and dynamic education in contemporary art through our BA, MA, and PhD programmes. We recognize that experience and knowledge come from all corners – from students, staff, and visitors – and we strive towards a more inclusive institution that foregrounds equality of opportunity, broad representation, respectful working conditions, ethical labour practices, and sensitivity to physical and psychological well-being. Fostering imagination and creativity through practice and research is a key priority as we work towards more sustainable futures, together. Through dialogue and production, we aim to meaningfully address the question: What do artists need to sustain a resilient and critical praxis?

### **Curriculum:**

Our curriculum is founded on the belief that arts education is both crucial and distinct. We prioritize small teaching groups, open dialogue, hands-on learning, and access to space and tools. Our practice- and experience-based teaching takes shape in relation to our eight focus areas – Ceramics and Clay, New Media, Painting, Performance, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture, and Textiles – and through our independent Curatorial Studies offer, all in dialogue with our theory and text-based programs. The academic and technical staff's international composition and high level of competence are the basis of our strength as a department, and we continually seek out diversity and plurality through our recruitment processes.

### **Research:**

Artistic research is a core activity for all levels within the academy. Our PhD program is at the forefront of artistic research programmes. Research groups investigate key topics through making, doing, writing and dialogue across all levels at KMD as well as with other faculties at UiB and art and educational institutions in Norway and further afield. Large-scale research projects foster international exchange and cross-institutional collaborations. Our goal is simple: to create new knowledge at the highest level within our field – and to disseminate and implement this knowledge productively as a contribution from the Art Academy to the world.

### **Relationships:**

The Art Academy forms one department within the Faculty of Art, Music, and Design at the University of Bergen, and is located in a state-of-the-art, purpose-built structure looking onto the water at Store Lungegårdsvann. From this site, students, and staff – including teachers, technicians, and administrators – collaborate within the department and faculty, throughout the university, and with partner institutions. Exhibitions, lectures, and symposia provide a meeting place between the art academy and the public, while professionals in the field are integrated into our community through lifelong learning. Beyond the academic milieu, we actively engage with art scenes locally, nationally, and internationally.

## ACTION AREAS 2023-2027

| <b>ACTION AREA A: Development of Study Programmes</b>   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Targets</b>  | <b>Main activity</b>  | <b>Responsible</b>   | <b>Period</b>  |
| Strengthen existing study programmes  | Evaluation of topics and structure  | Head of Department, Study leader, emne responsible, program board        | Annual process   |
|   | Review and revise newly implemented "emne" structure  | Head of Department, Study leader, Program Board, teaching staff          | Academic Year 23-24  |
|   | Review and revise program for Curatorial Practice   | Head of Department, Program Board, working group for Curatorial Practice | Phase 1: H23- V24  |
| Strategically revise the composition of positions   | Evaluate number of 100%/50%/20%, permanent and fixed term contracts and fields of expertise needed          | Head of Department (Department board?)                                   | Autumn 23. Create plan for last institute meeting December 23. |
| Prepare comprehensive plan for theory/context/history program in connection with new 100% Theory position | Action Research project – collaboration with learning lab   | Head of Department and Deputy Head of Department                         | Autumn 23. Create plan for last institute meeting December 23. |
| Peer review of all of KA  | Working with 'fagfelle'   | Head of Department   | 23/24  |
| Work to establish a variety of education for lifelong learning  | Create mediation pilot  | Head of Department and staff   | Academic Year 2023/24  |
|   | Apply for Decentralized Funding and the "Humanities Strategy"   |  |  |
| Improve relations between staff, engineers and students   | Review responsibility of engineers in relation to training and teaching                                     | Head of Department, Director, Head of Section HB Institute Leader Design | Autumn 23 - Spring 25  |
|   | Connect KU and other art practices better and more meaningfully for academic staff, engineers and students. |  |  |
| Address the need for extra-curricular activities as integral pedagogically                                | Develop pedagogical pilots.   | Head of Department, Head of Education, teaching staff                    |  |
|   | Integrate new models into emne structure  |  |  |

**ACTION AREA B: The Art Academy – Department of Contemporary Art and Society**

| <b>Targets</b>  | <b>Main activity</b>   | <b>Responsible</b>  | <b>Period</b>             |
|---|--|---|---------------------------|
| Networking in Bergen-   | Working with local stakeholders - museums Galleries  | Head of Department, Head of Education, teaching staff               |                           |
| Academy and sustainability.   | Develop strategies in relation to the environment but also in relation to sustainable artistic practice.<br>Consider all emner in relation to sustainability as defined above. | Head of Department, Head of Education, teaching staff               |                           |
| Maintain active international exchange, also reflected in the teaching staff                            | Erasmus staff exchange increase<br>Invite international staff<br>Value existing international staff's networks   | Head of Department,   |                           |
| Strengthen exhibition practices   | Increase intensity and frequency of public encounters with student work  | Head of Department, Head of Education, teaching staff               |                           |
|   | Building on Spring Exhibition and marked experience  |   |                           |
| Making Public   | Create strategy for how KA makes public and creates a public.  | Head of Department, Head of Education, teaching staff               |                           |
| Engage with international network building  | Reach out to new international networks like Shared Campus, Internationale, European Action for Advanced Practices   | Head of Department, Head of Education, Research lead teaching staff |                           |
| Participate actively in relevant international networks (such as KUNO, Elia, Parallax, Art of Research) | Apply for funding to participate in... (Meltzer etc.)  | Head of Department, Head of Education, Research lead teaching staff | ongoing, revised annually |
| Create better links to lille KhiB and other 'fagskole'.   | Coordinate common strategy with design and faculty   |   |                           |

**ACTION AREA C: Research**

| <b>Targets</b>   | <b>Main activity</b>  | <b>Responsible</b>  | <b>Period</b> |
|--|---|---|---------------|
| Strengthen research-based teaching from BA to PhD.               | Rivise PRO and MEME emne in connection with current staff research        | Head of Department, Head of Education, Research lead teaching staff |               |
| Heighten visibility of academic staff's professional practice.   | Map systems of evaluation of professional practice of staff and translate | Head of Department, Head of Education, Research lead teaching staff |               |
| Share research within Faculty                                    | Work towards shared research days across Faculty                          | Head of Department, Research lead teaching staff                    |               |
| Research Catalogue   | Integrating and enabling use by staff and students                        | Research lead Head of Department                                    |               |
| Explore and target alternative research funding, HK Dir and Narp | Develop ERC and other relevant applications                               | Research lead Head of Department teaching staff                     |               |
| Ensure all staff have up to date research information online UiB | Integrate as agenda in regular staff meeting points                       | Head of Department Research lead teaching staff                     |               |
|  |   |   |               |

**ACTION AREA D: Study and Working Environment**

| <b>Targets</b>   | <b>Main activity</b>  | <b>Responsible</b>                | <b>Period</b> |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Be a pioneer for focusing on well-being and health for students and staff at UiB | Link existing programmes and have named persons as contact points for students and academic staff | Head of Department                |               |
|  | Student led work around mental health and activities that make KA a safe place                    |                                   |               |
|  | Develop systems for onboarding for new staff and students.  |                                   |               |
| Preventing discrimination  | Establish Non binary working group with faculty and HR  |                                   |               |
|  | Implementing a process of equality monitoring. Gender, disability etc. Working with Balansekunst  |                                   |               |
| Increase staff pedagogic qualification   | Enrol in UPEd   | individuals                       | ongoing       |
| Make accessible structural information   | Student/teacher Handbook  | Head of Department, program board |               |
|  | Look at UPEd and other best practices   |                                   |               |
|  | Consult and collaborate with design department  |                                   |               |
| Channels of communication.   | Map information dissemination.  |                                   |               |
|  | Reveal and amend glitches in information flow.  |                                   |               |
|  | Work towards transparent decision making processes.   |                                   |               |
| Integrating digital tools for teaching and learning                              | Explore Menti, Padlet and other relevant digital tools  |                                   |               |
| Use Teams as tool  | Teams training  |                                   |               |
|  | Creating easy to navigate systems for storing and sharing documents and information.              |                                   |               |
| Adobe  | Getting Adobe licencing   |                                   |               |

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  | and or upgrading the mac lab so students have access to Adobe suit.                     |  |  |
| Working group to consider digital literacy | Improving the formats we have to use (Mitt UiB) and look to alternatives and hacks<br>. |  |  |

