The School of Architecture at Rensselaer requires that every applicant to the B.Arch professional program submit a portfolio, using our online portfolio system to upload your portfolio with digital files. A digital submission should make it easier for all candidates to format their material, as well as accelerate the application evaluation process. Due to unforeseen circumstances, in which you cannot submit your portfolio online, a written request must be submitted to Lecia O’Dell at odelll@rpi.edu. The request will be reviewed by the Dean’s office, and then you will be notified if you are approved to submit a hard copy portfolio.

The priority of the portfolio is to enable our admissions department here at Rensselaer to evaluate each student’s creative potential and achievement in the context of being considered for acceptance into our internationally renowned architecture program. The work included within the portfolio may consist of a range of media: pencil, charcoal, oil stick, and water color drawings; acrylic or oil paintings; paper, chipboard, wood, metal, ceramic or mixed media models; measured drawings or digital renderings; and black and white and color photographs, music scores, video, and other examples of creative production.

Although we encourage prospective students to acquire a range of software skills prior to their enrollment in our program in order to become digitally savvy early in their young careers, we would prefer that you do not include architectural drafted drawings in the portfolio. Prior experience with architectural software is not an application requirement.

We are committed to building a community of students who are creatively and intellectually inspired. Therefore, a portfolio comprised of a range of mixed media that is emblematic of the prospective student’s imagination and creative vision will be deemed most important during the evaluation process.

Please go to our online portfolio submission site at http://rpi.slideroom.com to submit your work. The system allows you to create an inventory of your portfolio projects. Each image should include the following information: title, date, medium, dimensions, and a brief description. You may upload jpeg images or video works. It is recommended that each portfolio consist (on average) of 10-20 images of work. As a reminder, the greater the range of work prospective candidates include in their portfolio, the easier it will be for the admissions department to evaluate their breadth of creative potential.

Once your portfolio is uploaded, it can be viewed and rearranged until the final submission is made. No changes can be made following the final submission of your portfolio. There is a $10 fee for each portfolio submission you make through Slideroom. Be sure to submit your portfolio to the correct degree level and program (undergraduate or transfer). If you experience technical difficulties while uploading your portfolio, you may send an e-mail to support@slideroom.com for technical support.

Deadline to upload and apply is January 15
Early decision 1 deadline is November 1
Early decision 2 deadline is December 15

Contact Information
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