BRING IT.

Mason School of Art will host a National Portfolio Day on Saturday, November 2, 2019 at the Art and Design Building located at 4515 Patriot Circle, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please see the list of attending schools for the location of each school.
What is the National Portfolio Day Association?
The National Portfolio Day Association (NDPA) was created in 1978
solely for the organization and planning of National Portfolio Days. The
Association consists of representatives that hold regional accreditation
and accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and
Design (NASAD), or Substantial Equivalency status. NDPA is the only
organization of its kind and the membership represents the highest
standard of visual art education available in the world.

What are National Portfolio Days?
National Portfolio Days are annual events held in multiple locations
across the United States, Canada, and Europe. They are designed
to provide a unique opportunity for you to meet individually with
professional representatives of accredited colleges and universities and
receive valuable feedback and guidance on your portfolio before you
submit it as part of your application. Not all members attend all events.
Visit nationalportfolioday.org for attendees.

No admission decisions or scholarship awards will be offered to you at
National Portfolio Days. Some college and university representatives
may accept your portfolio as the visual portion of your application.
Others have restrictions that prohibit them from making a definitive
portfolio decision at the time of your review. All representatives will be
happy to discuss their specific programs of study and provide answers
to questions about the availability of scholarships and financial aid.

You will not find National Portfolio Days to be an examination or
competition; the events are about an exchange of information. The
representatives want to learn about you, your work, and your post-
secondary plans, all while informing you about their college or university
and application requirements. These events may be the first time you
have been in an environment with so many people in one place who all
share a powerful commitment to art and design. Use this an opportunity
to be inspired, to gain advice as to how to improve or present your
portfolio, and to experience a small taste of what it is like to attend a
professional art and design program.

What should I bring to a National Portfolio Day?
A portfolio of visual artwork that includes your best and most recent
work, but it can also include works in progress, sketchbooks, and tear
sheets. Don’t hesitate to explain how you develop your ideas and where
you want to go with them. Often, sharing the process of arriving at the
completed work is as valuable as simply presenting finished products. You
will hear many different opinions about your work that will be reflective
of the admission requirements of each school. Therefore, we urge you
to discuss your work with as many colleges/universities as possible and
to bring no more than 15 works. Your portfolio can be presented as
original work or on screen, but make note wifi may not be available at all
locations. Students who are not prepared to show a portfolio may attend
to gather information from college/university representatives.

All National Portfolio Day events are free and open to the public.