

MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS

LEVEL II REQUEST FORM

Item No.:	144-2701-R0809	Date of Meeting:	August 3, 2009
Institution:	Montana State University Billings		
Program Title:	Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Degree		

Level II proposals require approval by the Board of Regents.

Level II action requested (check all that apply): Level II proposals entail substantive additions to, alterations in, or termination of programs, structures, or administrative or academic entities typically characterized by the (a) addition, reassignment, or elimination of personnel, facilities, or courses of instruction; (b) rearrangement of budgets, cost centers, funding sources; and (c) changes which by implication could impact other campuses within the Montana University System and community colleges. Board policy 303.1 indicates the curricular proposals in this category:

- 1. Change names of degrees (e.g. from B.A. to B.F.A.)
- 2. Implement a new minor or certificate where there is no major or no option in a major;
- 3. Establish new degrees and add majors to existing degrees;
- 4. Expand/extend approved mission; and
- 5. Any other changes in governance and organization as described in Board of Regents' Policy 218, such as formation, elimination or consolidation of a college, division, school, department, institute, bureau, center, station, laboratory, or similar unit.

Specify Request:

As a comprehensive, regional, public university serving the educational needs of Montanans and accessible to all who are qualified, Montana State University Billings has the primary mission of preparing students of all ages to be productive and responsible citizens, with special focus on the integration of education with service and an applied rather than basic research mission. The Department of Art, a subdivision of the College of Arts, is requesting the establishment of a new degree, the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Art. The B.F.A. is considered the professional undergraduate degree in art. The addition of the B.F.A. in Art would thus add a professional degree option to the existing Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Art, which is considered a general liberal arts degree that does not necessarily prepare students for careers as art professionals. Students who are enrolled in B.F.A. programs are expected to develop the knowledge, skills, concepts, and sensitivities necessary to function in the professional life of the artist. For any of the possible roles of a professional artist, beyond learning technical competence, the student must also understand and utilize basic art knowledge, possess the ability to synthesize art knowledge and skills, and develop insights into the role of art in intellectual and cultural life.