The UMBC Department of Visual Arts requires all students to have a MacBook Pro. After many years of operating labs, and seeing the value of student computer ownership, we believe that having a laptop will enhance each student’s ability to learn, create, and work. This coming Fall 2010 semester will be the 5th year of our laptop initiative program.

The minimum requirement is as follows;

• Mac Book Pro 15-inch 2.4GHz Intel Core i5 • 4GB 1066MHz DDR3 SDRAM - 2x2GB • 500GB Serial ATA Drive @ 7200 rpm • AppleCare Protection Plan • Accident Insurance (Strongly Recommended) Our Special price is available ONLY at the UMBC Bookstore: call 410-455-3810 for more information.

Students are also required to purchase an Adobe CS suite that will serve the individual concentration they have selected.

**Design, Photo, and Print Media majors:** the Adobe Design Premium CS suite will suffice, this suite includes Adobe Photoshop® CS5 Extended, Illustrator® CS5, InDesign® CS5, Flash® Catalyst™ CS5, Flash Professional CS5, Dreamweaver® CS5, Fireworks® CS5, and Acrobat® 9 Pro. This suite can also be purchased at the UMBC bookstore at a significant educational discount rate.

**Animation/Interactive Media and Cinematic Arts Majors:** you will need to buy the Production Premium CS suite which includes Adobe Premiere Pro CS5 (with Adobe OnLocation™ CS5 and Encore® CS5), After Effects CS5, Photoshop® CS5 Extended, Illustrator® CS5, Flash® Catalyst™ CS5, Flash Professional CS5, and Soundbooth® CS5.

There is the option of purchasing a Master Suite that has all of the various software that adobe produces at a very reduced price through the UMBC bookstore.

**The Master Suite** Includes •Adobe Photoshop® CS5 Extended • Adobe Bridge CS5, Illustrator® CS5 • InDesign® CS5, Flash® Catalyst™ CS5 • Flash Professional CS5, Dreamweaver® CS5 • Fireworks® CS5, and Acrobat® 9 Pro. • Adobe Contribute® CS5, Adobe Premiere Pro CS5 • (with Adobe OnLocation™ CS5 and Encore® CS5) • After Effects CS5, and Soundbooth® CS5 • Adobe Device Central CS5, Adobe Dynamic Link

We are working with Apple Computer, Adobe, the UMBC Bookstore, and the UMBC Financial Aid office to make these products and discounts available. Please be sure that the Financial Aid office is aware of your status as an Art Major. Many students purchase more than one computer during their college career, and owning a laptop is the best way to start since it will help you both in and out of the classroom.
Many art schools across the country have laptop programs, and students experience many benefits. When students have access to a computer at any time and anywhere, they don’t have to rely on institutional computer lab hours. This results in learning the software more thoroughly, and allows them to customize their computer to fit their needs. They become more adept and confident in using programs. As a result, students with their own laptops perform better and submit higher quality projects.

Our knowledge and experience will provide a supportive environment for a new computing paradigm of student laptop ownership, truly making the computer a tool for effective student learning and creativity.

If you have further questions, please contact Calvin Custen at 410-455-6587, or email: custen@umbc.edu or Charles Myers at 410-455-3806, email: charles@umbc.edu.

Sincerely

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