Dear Visual Arts Major

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.

We are working with Apple Computer, Adobe, the UMBC Bookstore, and the UMBC Financial Aid office. Make sure the Financial Aids 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 both in and out of the classroom. You can call the UMBC Bookstore (410-455-3810) or on the web go to http://bookstore.umbc.edu/merchlist.aspx?ID=10298. There you can place an order on line for software and hardware.

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 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 student learning and creativity.

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

Sincerely

Calvin Custen
Computer Lab Administrator
UMBC
1000 Hilltop Circle
Fine Arts Bldg.
Baltimore, MD 21250