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करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

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करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

विजुअल आर्टिस्ट (चित्रकार)

A Visual Artist (Painter) is a fine artist who expresses ideas, emotions and a personal vision in colour and line through painting, drawing, mixed media and contemporary art. Working in oil, acrylic, watercolour or ink on canvas,...



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/visual-artist

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Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

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श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



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अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
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विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



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सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

A Visual Artist (Painter) is a fine artist who expresses ideas, emotions and a personal vision in colour and line through painting, drawing, mixed media and contemporary art. Working in oil, acrylic, watercolour or ink on canvas, paper or walls, they create original artworks, show them in galleries and exhibitions, sell to collectors, and also take on murals, illustration and commissioned work. It is a creative, independent and self-expressive career where recognition and income grow with experience, skill and a reputation in the art market — though earnings are irregular at the start.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	BFA (Painting) after Class 12; a strong art portfolio
Course duration	BFA 4 years + MFA 2 years (optional)
Starting salary	₹12,000–25,000/month (irregular, sales-based)
Work mode	Independent practice; also galleries, illustration and teaching

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Deep interest in colour, line, form and visual composition
- A desire to express ideas and emotions through art
- Enjoy experimenting with new styles and media

ABILITIES

- Original imagination and creative thinking
- Manual skill, colour sense and keen observation
- Patience, self-discipline and persistence on long projects

KEY SKILLS

- Drawing, sketching and the fundamentals of composition
- Colour theory, light and shade, and perspective
- Building a portfolio, photographing and presenting artwork
- Digital illustration tools and promotion on social media
- Painting techniques in oil, acrylic, watercolour and mixed media
- Developing a distinctive personal style and visual language
- Exhibiting, gallery outreach, pricing and marketing art

4 How to get there

- 1 Practise drawing and painting regularly from school days and start building a portfolio.
- 2 After Class 12, enrol in a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA – Painting/Visual Art) at a recognised art institute.
- 3 Prepare for the entrance exam and portfolio/aptitude test (e.g. Rajasthan School of Art, MSU Baroda).
- 4 Take part in group shows, art camps and competitions during your studies.
- 5 Do an MFA (Painting) for deeper specialisation and networks — optional but helpful.
- 6 Connect with galleries, hold solo/group shows, and build income streams from commissions, illustration and teaching.

MAIN EXAMS

- BFA entrance exam with drawing/aptitude test and portfolio interview (institute-wise)

5 Where to study**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES**

- राजस्थान स्कूल ऑफ़ आर्ट (Rajasthan School of Art) — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/college/gcrsajaipur>)
- कॉलेज ऑफ़ आर्ट, दिल्ली (College of Art) — New Delhi (<https://colart.delhi.gov.in/>)
- फैकल्टी ऑफ़ फाइन आर्ट्स, एमएस यूनिवर्सिटी वडोदा — Vadodara, Gujarat (<https://msubaroda.ac.in/academics/FFA>)
- कला भवन, विश्व-भारती (Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan) — Santiniketan, West Bengal (<https://www.visvabharati.ac.in/KalaBhavana.html>)

- सर जे. जे. स्कूल ऑफ़ आर्ट (Sir J.J. School of Art) — Mumbai, Maharashtra (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_J._J._School_of_Art)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- एमिटी स्कूल ऑफ़ फाइन आर्ट्स (BFA) — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://collegedunia.com/university/25797-amity-university-jaipur/bachelor-of-fine-arts-bfa-201>)
- आर्च कॉलेज ऑफ़ डिज़ाइन एंड बिज़नेस — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.archedu.org/>)

ONLINE

- ललित कला अकादमी - कम्युनिटी स्टूडियो (पेंटिंग) — New Delhi / regional centres (<https://lalitkala.gov.in/>)
- स्किल इंडिया डिजिटल हब - कला व शिल्प कोर्स — Online (<https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/>)

FEES

At government art institutes (Rajasthan School of Art, College of Art Delhi, Kala Bhavana) BFA fees are very low — roughly ₹5,000–25,000 per year. At private universities BFA fees can run about ₹60,000–1,50,000 per year. The cost of paints, canvas and materials is extra.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- ललित कला अकादमी स्कॉलरशिप (संस्कृति मंत्रालय) (<https://lalitkala.gov.in/scholarship>)
- संस्कृति मंत्रालय - कला हेतु स्कॉलरशिप/फेलोशिप (<https://www.indiaculture.gov.in/scholarships-fellowships>)
- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Buddy4Study - Arts Scholarships & Fellowships (<https://www.buddy4study.com/article/top-arts-scholarships-fellowships-indian-students>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

One's own or home studio, art galleries, art fairs and exhibition venues, illustration studios in advertising and publishing, schools/colleges and art camps, and public sites for wall art/murals.

WORK CULTURE

Most painters are freelance and set their own hours — work is solitary, quiet and done in long sessions. Because income depends on projects and sales, it stays irregular, so many artists balance it with teaching, illustration or commissions. The field offers equal opportunity to women and to persons with disabilities.

WHO HIRES

- Own art practice — selling works to galleries and collectors
- Advertising agencies, publishing houses and illustration studios
- Hotels, corporates and public bodies — murals and commissioned work
- Art galleries, art foundations, auction houses and curators
- Schools, colleges and art institutes (as art teachers)
- NGOs, museums and cultural organisations (Lalit Kala Akademi, etc.)

DEMAND (2026)

India's art market keeps growing — new galleries, online art platforms, interior design, hotel and corporate decor, and mural projects sustain demand for original painting. There are also openings in illustration, digital art and art teaching. Competition is high and it takes time to get established, so the field rewards patience and steady practice.

7 Career growth

- 1 Art student / emerging artist (during and after BFA)
- 2 Independent painter — group shows and commissions
- 3 Established artist — regular solo shows and gallery representation
- 4 Renowned/senior artist — national-international recognition, awards and high prices

EARNINGS

Starting	₹12,000–25,000/माह
Mid level	₹30,000–70,000/माह
Senior level	₹1,00,000–5,00,000+/माह

A painter's income depends mostly on artwork sales, commissions and projects, so it is irregular early on — strong sales in some months, very little in others. Per SalaryExpert, the average painter-artist salary in India is around ₹8.7 lakh/year (~₹73,000/month), but that mainly reflects salaried/teaching roles. Teaching, illustration and commissions steady the income; a single work by an established, renowned artist can sell for lakhs.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- A career of full creative freedom and self-expression
- Being your own boss — control over your time and style
- Potential for prestige, awards and high prices once recognised

The challenges

- Income is irregular and uncertain in the early years
- Heavy competition — getting established can take years
- Solitary, long-hour work and facing rejection

9 Real-life journeys

Ram Gopal Vijayvargiya

Pioneering Rajasthani painter, Padma Shri (1984)

Born in 1905 in Baler village of Sawai Madhopur district, Ram Gopal Vijayvargiya trained under Asit Kumar Haldar at the Maharaja School of Arts in Jaipur and later absorbed the Bengal School style. His gentle, poetic paintings — inspired by Indian legends and literature — appeared in magazines like Modern Review and Dharmyug. He held his first solo show in 1928, served for years as principal of the Rajasthan School of Art, and became vice-president of the Rajasthan Lalit Kala Akademi. In 1984 he was honoured with the Padma Shri. His life shows that from the soil of Rajasthan itself, a devotion to pure painting can earn nationwide respect.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ram_Gopal_Vijayvargiya

Anjolie Ela Menon

One of India's leading contemporary painters, Padma Shri (2000)

Anjolie Ela Menon is one of India's most respected contemporary painters, known for her signature oil-on-masonite style with translucent washes of colour. She studied at the Sir J.J. School of Art in Mumbai, took an English literature degree from Delhi University, and studied at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris on a French Government scholarship. Religious themes, portraiture and figurative work define her art; her paintings are held in collections such as the NGMA and the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. She has held over 35 solo exhibitions and received the Padma Shri in 2000 and the Kalidas Samman in 2018. Her journey shows girls that an original voice in painting can reach a world stage.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anjolie_Ela_Menon

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Sculptor
- Calligrapher

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Artist — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%95%e0%a4%b2%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b0artist/>
2. Rajasthan School of Art, Jaipur — <https://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/college/gcrsajaipur>
3. Lalit Kala Akademi Scholarship (Ministry of Culture) — <https://lalitkala.gov.in/scholarship>
4. SalaryExpert – Painter Artist Salary India — <https://www.salaryexpert.com/salary/job/painter-artist/india>
5. BFA Fees – Rajasthan School of Art (Shiksha) — <https://www.shiksha.com/college/rajasthan-school-of-art-jaipur-111387/courses/bfa-bc>



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