To apply for admission to LCAD, you must present a portfolio of your best work that demonstrates your strengths, interests and artistic growth. LCAD recognizes that students enter college with diverse artistic backgrounds; therefore, each portfolio is evaluated on an individual specific basis.

Submit between 12 and 20 images that demonstrate your best and most recent work. The work can include class projects, professional work experience or personal assignments.

**PORTFOLIO GUIDELINES**

- **Life Drawing** - (3 Pages) A minimum of 9 Observational gesture drawings of people and animals with emphasis on dynamic poses, strong silhouette value and clear actions/attitudes. A mix of posed drawings and work done outside the studio is desirable. Suggested venues for gesture drawings are parks, zoos, beaches, restaurants, museums and malls.
- **Character Designs** - (3 Pages) A minimum of 6 designs that demonstrate the applicant’s ability to develop personality in designs of humans, animals and inanimate objects using cartoon stylization, exaggeration and simplification.
- **Expression Sheets** - (4 Pages) A minimum of 8 drawings that show a broad range of emotions for a single character using both facial features and body posture.
- **Storytelling Drawings** - A minimum of 4 images that communicate an important emotional beat or moment from a larger story.

**OPTIONAL SUBMISSIONS**

- **Animation Reel** - QuickTime movie reel of traditionally drawn, computer or stop-motion animation.
- **Storyboards** - A single sequence of up to 24 sequential story sketches/panels that demonstrate the applicant's visual storytelling skills. Emphasis is on clarity of drawing, effective staging and composition, understanding entertainment potential and dramatic structure.
- **Backgrounds** - Drawings of buildings or natural environment sketches showing the applicant’s understanding or perspective.
- **Additional Images** - Up to 4 additional images of the applicant’s choice may be included.

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Observational Drawing:** Sketches done from direct study of people, animals or landscapes. (While photographs should not be used, video is permissible for study of fast actions such as human and animal locomotion).

**Gesture Drawing:** A loose, quick drawing which captures the essence of an action with more emphasis on personality and movement than on detailed anatomy.
Dynamic Poses: Drawings that have a good sense of weight and balance and suggest a clear movement or emotion in the subject. (Try showing your work to a friend to see if they can easily identify the action or attitude you’ve drawn).

Silhouette Value: A drawing that retains clarity of the attitude or action even when completely filled in with black. (This is a good way to check the strength of your pose to make sure it still “reads” even in silhouette.)

Staging: The presentation of an idea so that it’s clear using composition, silhouette, lighting and character placement.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS
A more detailed explanation of terms used here and drawn examples may be found in the following books:
- *Character Animation Crash Course*! by Eric Goldberg (ISBN: 978-1879605791)
- *The Illusion of Life* by Frank Thomas and Ollie Johnston (ISBN: 978-0786860708)
- *Drawn to Life* by Walt Stanchfield, Edited by Don Hahn (ISBN: 978-0240810966)

SENDING YOUR PORTFOLIO (IMAGE FORMAT)
Submit your portfolio to the Office of Admissions. When submitting your portfolio by mail, a digital CD is preferred. Digital portfolio images should be saved as .jpg files that are no larger than 1 MB each. Your portfolio should include an inventory list that identifies each work by number, title, media and completion date. Each image should be labeled as follows 01_ (APPLICANT’S LAST NAME), 02_ (APPLICANTS LAST NAME), etc. Portfolios with prepaid return postage will be returned via the US Postal Service. LCAD is not responsible for lost or damaged portfolios.

Portfolios should be sent to:
Laguna College of Art + Design
Office of Admissions
2222 Laguna Canyon Rd.
Laguna Beach CA 92651

*Please contact your admissions counselor if you would prefer to send your portfolio via email.*