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
- **Observational Drawing** – Observational gesture drawings of people and/or animals with emphasis on dynamic poses, done outside the studio is desirable. Suggested venues for gesture drawings are parks, zoos, beaches, restaurants, and malls.
- **Life Drawing** – Classical “finished” life drawings showing an understanding of form, mass, light and anatomy.
- **Environmental Drawings** – Observational drawings or paintings from location and/or from the imagination expressing a sense of place, story or mood. Observation image can be of an interior or exterior architecture or landscape space. The imagination image can be fantastical or naturalistic.
- **Renderings From Photographic Reference** – Renderings created from photographic reference. This could include images of people, animals or objects. Focus should be on accuracy and realistic fidelity.
- **Creative Problem Solving, Illustration** – Fully realized illustrations including related development work that demonstrates the process of visually solving a problem through the use of thumbnails and drafts. The illustrations can be black and white or color: topics could include: posters, CD cover art, illustrated poems, or song lyrics, editorial issues, etc. Focus should be on visual communication, creativity in a medium of choice.
- **Storytelling Drawings** – Images that communicate four key moments in a story. The story could be an original or existing story. Black and white or color in medium of choice.

OPTIONAL SUBMISSIONS
- 3D program submissions of your choice
- Pen and ink drawings of your choice
- Work showing strong color usage
- Digital paintings

DEFINITION OF TERMS
**Observational Drawing**: Sketches done from direct study of people, animals or landscapes. Photographs should not be used in the process of observational drawing.
Gesture Drawing: A looser, quick drawing which captures the essence of an action with more emphasis on personality and movement than detailed anatomy.

Thumbnail: A small rough sketch that shows a basic composition and idea used in the process of developing a more refined preliminary draft or final work.

Draft: A preliminary drawing or study that will become the basis for the final illustration. Usually done in a black and white medium. A color version is considered a comprehensive preliminary study, or concept art.

Rendering: A more refined drawing that shows light, shadow, form and surface textures.

MAJORS AVAILABLE
Illustration
Illustration with Drawing & Painting Emphasis
Illustration with Entertainment Emphasis

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.