

USC Cinematic Arts

Cinematic Arts Personal Statement *(Must be uploaded in PDF format only. 1000 words or less)*

- Will be read by the admissions committee as a measure of creativity, self-awareness and vision.
- Give a sense of you as a unique individual and how your distinctive experiences, characteristics, background, values and/or views of the world have shaped who you are and what you want to say as a creative filmmaker.
- We want to know about the kind of stories you want to tell.
- Bear in mind that enthusiasm for watching films, descriptions of your favorite films and the involvement in the filmmaking process is common in most candidates.
- As a result, we encourage that you focus on your individuality.
- Note that there is no standard format or correct answer.

Writing Sample - Choose One *(Must be uploaded in PDF format only)*

A dialogue scene between two people. Provide a one-paragraph introduction describing the two characters in screenplay format. *(No more than three pages)*

Creative Portfolio List *(Must be uploaded in PDF format only)*

- Written record of the applicant's creative materials
- Should include a concise description of each project, the month and year the project was completed, the applicant's creative role and the purpose of the project.
- The material, which does not need to be film- or television-related, should give an idea of the range and depth of the applicant's creative ability.
- Formal recognition - such as awards, publications, jobs and exhibitions - should be noted.
- The name of the institution or publication should be included when listing creative materials prepared for a class or publication.

Collaboration Question *(No more than two pages)*

- Describe a project that you worked on with multiple collaborators that left you feeling proud and fulfilled.
- Discuss your role in the project and explain why this collaboration was successful. Then, describe another collaborative project that left you unsatisfied.
- Discuss your role in the project and explain why this collaboration frustrated you.
- Finally, summarize what you learned from each of these experiences and describe the lessons you learned that inspire your future collaborations.

Video Introduction

Submit a 30-60 second video of yourself speaking directly to the camera, in a single take with no edits, introducing yourself and explaining what will make attending SCA a successful experience for you and others.

Media Sample (choose one) (Upload in Portfolio Section)

Video Option: Create a narrative video that is no longer than five minutes in which you had a major creative role.

- The video can be live-action or animation, fiction or documentary, but it should reflect your aesthetic tastes and intellectual and emotional interests.
- You must specify what role(s) you played.
- Submit only one video.
- Multiple submissions will cause your application to be rejected.

NYU Tisch

Part 1: One Page Resume - How have you spent the last 4 years?

Create a holistic picture of who you are; include:

- Social and/or community work
- Extracurricular activities including sports, clubs etc.
- Outside employment whether it's paid, voluntary or family responsibilities
- Creative projects
- Anything else you spend a significant amount of free time on

Required elements:

1. Full Name
2. Home Address
3. Date of birth
4. Name of high school

1 page max, PDF file, save as 'Bindroo_Ansh_Resume' before uploading

Part 2: Tell us about 'yourselfie' – Upload a 1-2 minute creative portrait where you show and tell us about yourself

- Video should be in your own voice and format – be creative and fun!
- What you choose to say and how you say it is up to you
- Production value will not be judged – use your phone
- No polished/edited videos
- **A short video where you show and tell something about yourself that we cannot get from other aspects of your application**
- Consider carefully what you want to share and whether it is appropriate
- Save as 'Bindroo_Ansh_Yourselfie'

Part 3: Tell us a story

- Choose one of the prompts provided and tell a complete story, fiction or non-fiction inspired by the prompt
- Up to 3 pages
- Double-spaced
- 11-12 font size
- Legible margins
- Written in prose
- PDF
- Note SPAG
- Save as 'Bindroo_Ansh_Story'

Part 4: Set The Scene

Write a 1 page short story where you describe your first memorable film or tv viewing experience that left a lasting impression on you.

- What do you remember about the experience?
- How did it impact you and the kinds of stories you hope to tell?
- Why did it make you want to study filmmaking?
- Should be written as a short story that reflects on your personal experience - **not an essay or a synopsis of the film or tv show itself**
- Should vividly describe your experience and the influence it had on you
- Take note of your **grammar, spelling, and punctuation** - you should submit something polished, without typos

Format:

- 1 page
- Double-spaced
- 11 or 12 point font
- Legible margins
- Written in prose style (i.e. short story, not an academic essay)
- Saved as a PDF with the file name: **LastName_FirstName_Scene**

Part 5: Creative Submission

Option 2: Film/Video of up to 5 minutes (including credits)

- You may provide **ONE** film of: live action, fiction, experimental, documentary, animation, or a combination of any of these.
- Your submission should be a **complete work** which represents your best effort and one which engages your audience.
- Total running time of the submission **must NOT exceed 5 minutes**.
- You may not submit more than one film.
- Video footage of staged plays or theater performances is not acceptable.
- **We do not accept excerpts or reels.**
- You must be clear about your specific contributions the piece you submit.
- You should be the principal creative force behind your submission and will be asked to describe your role in detail.

