



Vancouver Film School VFS MKD Editorial

How to Transform Your Makeup Design Career for the Entertainment Industry in 2023 (and Beyond!)

Film and television have the power to transport us to other worlds. Good cinema is about more than just escapism – it’s about *the experience*. Your favourite movies and series are a culmination of so many creative aspects – including production makeup.

From designing looks for the otherworldly to historical lookalikes and even ordinary “camera-ready” makeup, production makeup is often one of the first things we see on-screen, even if we don’t realize it.

At Vancouver Film School, we offer a [Makeup Design for Film & Television](#) program that trains makeup artists to become industry leaders & award winners (all in just 12 short months!).

What is VFS’s Makeup Design program all about?

At VFS, you’ll be trained as a makeup artist faster than any other school so that you can get hired & working right away. This means less time in the classroom and more time building your career.

- TERM 1: Basics, Beauty + Beyond
- TERM 2: Glamour + Out-of-Kit FX
- TERM 3: Character Techniques
- TERM 4: 3D Makeup Techniques
- TERM 5: Advanced Character Creation
- TERM 6: Final Projects + Portfolios

Our curriculum is continually being refined and updated to provide students with the most relevant training. We do this to produce the strongest makeup artists possible for the industry. The greater the talent, the stronger the industry, and we are continually raising the bar to better serve the creative industries.

Our alumni go on to work on some of the biggest projects, including *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3*, *The Last of Us*, *Game of Thrones*, and *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*.

Why VFS over other schools?

We offer students what no other production makeup school can offer: **The VFS Advantage**. This is what truly makes our training unparalleled in post-secondary education. This means:

- 1) *The most comprehensive curriculum*: VFS's unique curriculum includes creating 'float beards', digital makeup design, film history classes, hair & wig styling, ventilating moustaches & hair pieces, and traditional art media (watercolor, oil painting, photography). You'll find that some of this curriculum is not taught at other schools.
- 2) *Superior facilities*: Three campuses, including the one-of-a-kind Franklin Street Studio, are equipped with individual makeup stations, professional-caliber workshops, photo areas, and so much more.
- 3) *Industry-based instructors*: You will be taught by professional makeup artists who are actively working in the entertainment industry.
- 4) *Emphasis on crafting a portfolio*: You will build a powerful 20+ page portfolio that will serve as your calling card as you seek employment for the rest of your career.
- 5) *Your kit and supplies on day 1*: Unlike other schools, your makeup kit and ALL class supplies are included in the cost of your tuition. We find that our students are best served when VFS provides them with the most tried and true professional brands of products for their training.
- 6) *Career preparation*: Part of the Makeup Design curriculum includes career prep classes (resumes, interviews, unions, networking etcetera) so that when you graduate, you have all the tools necessary to get hired right away.
- 7) *Recognition*: Our Makeup Design alumni find fulfilling careers all over the world and are recognized regularly by the industry for their work. VFS has won 68 International Make-up Artist Tradeshow awards (IMATS), 9 Leo Awards, and was nominated for a 2023 Emmy (alumnus Darla Edin, *Daisy Jones & the Six*).
- 8) *Alumni directory*: Throughout your training, you will forge a strong network of connections with your peers and industry professionals that will last your career.

Is now the right time to be getting into the entertainment industry?

There has never been a better time to pursue a career as a makeup artist. The global professional makeup industry is worth \$43B, and there are an estimated 50,000 professional makeup artists in the US alone.

What's more, according to Forbes, one industry that was immune to the pandemic was the beauty industry, which actually experienced growth during this time. They also affirm that in the not-too-distant future, massive growth will hit the film and TV makeup sector, leading to numerous state-of-the-art developments.

As it pertains to VFS, our alumni go on to work directly on-set in film & television, but also find lifelong careers in FX shops. As the second half of our curriculum focuses heavily on sculpting, molding, and prosthetics, you'll develop skills that are highly sought after by FX shops (like Vancouver's mastersfx).

What does this all mean? Production makeup is one of the fastest growing creative industries in the world and the demand for makeup artists is high.

How do I get started?

We invite you to attend our in-person [Open House](#) events and online Program Previews which are both held regularly. While our Open Houses give you an overview of VFS & the student experience, our program previews dive into the nuts & bolts of our individual programs.

However, if you're looking for a chance to actually step inside the Makeup Design program for a day, [All Access Pass](#) on October 21 is perfect for you! This event is your exclusive backstage access to the program and includes:

- *Your future as a makeup artist:* Discover how this program has created artists that have won numerous awards and garnered multiple wins on SYFY's reality competition series *Face Off*.
- *In-studio demos:* A head-to-head prosthetics competition by three VFS Artists and judged by the audience, a live Halloween makeup demo, and a video demo on staining teeth (right out of *Evil Dead*).
- *Production makeup show & tell:* See the prosthetics, life casts, molds, masks, wigs, hairpieces, etc. used by the industry and our students.
- *Your personal portfolio review:* You'll meet with our faculty to review your work – anything on your phone or in a physical portfolio that illustrates your passion for makeup design.

Finally, to learn even more about Vancouver Film School, our Makeup Design program, and our All Access Pass events, signup [here](#) and be the first to receive exclusive content.

Now is the time to transform your career as a makeup artist for the entertainment industry. Launch your career at VFS!