



Welcome to the University of the Arts and its student community!

University of the Arts Student Union (ArtSU) congratulates you and welcomes you to study in the University of the Arts Helsinki! As a bachelor's or a master's degree student you are automatically also a member of the University of the Arts Student Union. The purpose of the student union is to keep the voice of students at the university decision-making, to build the community beyond the academy boundaries and to speak for art students and art in society. You can find us on Instagram and Facebook (@taiyoartsu), in addition to which we communicate on current topics concerning all students in weekly newsletters sent by e-mail and on our website taiyo.fi.

As a bachelor's or master's degree student you must pay the student union membership fee before enrolling to Uniarts Helsinki. This fee is not a tuition fee, but your money is used to finance the work and services of the student union – we'll come back to them soon. In the semester year beginning the membership fee is 62 €; you can find more information about the payment in the university's instructions and on our website taiyo.fi. In addition to the Student Union membership fee, every student has to pay a separate health care fee to Kela. This health care fee allows you to use the health service provided by the Finnish Student Health Service (FSHS).

Back to the benefits and services, ie what the Student Union does in practice! One of the most important tasks of the Student Union is to take care of the rights, interests and well-being of students at the Uniarts Helsinki. To promote these topics ArtSU meets regularly with university executive and administration, takes a stand on issues discussed by students, and elects student representatives to the university's decision-making bodies. Another important task for ArtSU is to promote the sense of community at the university level: the Student Union is already this autumn organizing various events where you have the opportunity to get know students from other programs and academies as well. Third, ArtSU advocates for student status and art as well at the national level in cooperation with other student unions and the National Union of University Students in Finland. The student union also offers its members various services and benefits, like different kind of student discounts all over Finland. **To get all the discounts, you need a student card, so remember to order your student card** at www.frank.fi!

The student union is here for you! If you need help or more information on something, please call or e-mail us or come and visit our office. An easy way to get to know the student union (and new people) is to come to our events or to apply for open positions of responsibility, so follow our webpage and our weekly newsletter for more information on events and open student representative positions!

See you soon in the orientation period and events in the autumn!

Sini Kaartinen

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ArtSU's Board – here to help you: Sini Kaartinen, chair (SibA), Mikael Karkkonen (TeaK), Johannes Pessi (SibA), Sara Pirhonen (TeaK), Jouni Tapio (TeaK), Viivi Tigerstedt (SibA)

ArtSU's Office – come and visit us: Nervanderinkatu 13, 4th floor (P.O. Box 36, 00097 Taideyliopisto), tel. 040 710 4298, taiyo-toimisto@uniarts.fi

ArtSU in social media – follow us! Instagram @taiyoartsu, Facebook: facebook.com/taiyoartsu and own FB groups for different academy students. Follow also the weekly newsletter sent by e-mail and check our website on taiyo.fi

What does ArtSU do?

- Organizes events, like the Orientation Day after party on Friday the 27th of August, the New students' party in September and the Anniversary party in November.
- Negotiates the rights, benefits and responsibilities of students inside the university, e.g. by meeting the university leaders regularly
- Works for the better tomorrow of students in society together with other student unions
- Supports students' own art projects with grants and by providing them space in the Space for Free Arts in Sörnäinen (more info at www.vapaantaiteentila.fi/en)
- Offers various services for students

What services does ArtSU offer?

- Student card, which proves you to be a student and entitles you to discounts all over Finland from restaurants to trains and laptops to theatre tickets. The card is also available in digital format and can be combined to a debit payment card. NB: Remember to order the card yourself at www.frank.fi!
- Gig service via the Artist Directory, cheap PA-system renting etc.
- Common rooms and kitchens for students in each academy
- Guidance, legal advice and harassment contact persons

How can I keep up with what's happening?

- ArtSU publishes a weekly newsletter that all students receive automatically by e-mail. The newsletter also includes important news related to studies, so remember to at least glance through it every week!
- Check out also our webpage (www.taiyo.fi) and follow us on Instagram (@taiyoartsu) and on Facebook (facebook.com/taiyoartsu, facebook.com/groups/323951204315366).

How does the student union work?

- The highest decision-making body of the student union is the council which has 15 members. The council is chosen by elections every two years, and every student union member has the right to vote and to run for council. The next election will be in this autumn in the beginning of November – remember to vote!
- The council selects ArtSU's chairperson and the executive board, which has 6-10 members. The board is responsible for everyday actions in the student union. The board's term is one year.
- ArtSU's academy committees organize events and take care of student affairs inside each academy.
- ArtSU also has regular employees: e.g. the Secretary General takes care of ArtSU's economy and acts as secretary for the board and the council, and the Secretary for Member Services and Communications takes care of i.e. member services and day-to-day office routines.



How can I join in?

- You can do different things: volunteer at events, run for council if you want to decide on the greater issues of the student union or join the executive board and make stuff happen.
- Each academy has its own academy committee functioning under the student union. The committees are responsible for the sense of community, student traditions and many events inside the academy.
- Many subjects groups and degree programmes have subject organizations, which organize events and keep members informed about current issues in the subject group.
- The university's decision-making bodies always include student representatives who are appointed by ArtSU. If you want to influence university issues, apply for open student representative positions!