



Welcome to the University of the Arts Student Union!

University of the Arts Student Union (ArtSU) welcomes you to study in the University of the Arts Helsinki!

Every university in Finland has its own student union, and ArtSU is the community and interest organization of all Uniarts Helsinki students. Every attending bachelor's and master's degree student is automatically a member of the student union when enrolling to the university, and exchange students as well as doctoral students are also welcome to join. The purpose of the student union is to promote fellowship between members, promote the interests and rights of students, and provide services and assistance for all members.

As a bachelor's or master's degree student you must pay the student union membership fee before enrolling to Uniarts Helsinki. Remember that it is not a tuition fee: your money is used to finance the work and services of the student union. In the autumn semester of 2020, the membership fee also includes the Finnish Student Health Service (FSHS) health care fee, which will be paid separately to Kela from spring 2021 onwards. Doctoral students have somewhat narrower membership benefits than other students, and therefore their voluntary membership fee is also lower. Together with the membership fee, you can pay a voluntary development co-operation fee of 5 €, which is used to promote educational environments in developing countries. More information on paying the membership fee and on the development co-operation fee can be found in the university's instructions and on our website www.taiyo.fi. The student union website also has a lot of other useful information for students – go check it out!

The most important mission of ArtSU is to promote the status, rights, interests and well-being of its members. ArtSU does continuous student advocacy work inside the University of the Arts Helsinki, and together with other student unions and the National Union of University Students in Finland, it exerts its influence on educational and social politics concerning students in the whole country. The student union also offers its members various services and benefits, like hundreds of student discounts all over Finland. In order 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!

Welcome and see You soon!

Sofia Charifi

Chairperson of the Board
taiyo-pj@uniarts.fi
tel. 040 710 4297

Ville Sinnemäki

Secretary General
taiyo-paasihteeri@uniarts.fi
tel. 040 710 4296

ArtSU's Board – here to help you: Sofia Charifi (chair, TeaK), Terhi Hartikainen (TeaK), Veera Isotalo (SibA), Sini Kaartinen (SibA), Eugenie van der Meulen (SibA), Oskari Ruuska (KuvA), Maria Valkeavuolle (KuvA)

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



What does ArtSU do?

- Organizes events, like the Orientation Day after party on 21 August and the Anniversary party in April
- Negotiates the rights, benefits and responsibilities of students inside the university
- 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?

- The diverse and very affordable health care services of FSHS, read more at www.yths.fi/en
- 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!
- Fabulous ArtSU calendar and Ylioppilaslehti student magazine for free
- 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 October-November 2021 – 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 Interest Advocacy is in charge of member services, day-to-day office routines and all affairs related to student advocacy.

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!