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-Digital Photography -  
Period 4

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I really enjoy math so an art career with math would be great. Architecture is a career that combines the two things I love. So, I believe architecture is a career in art that I would love to pursue. My DREAM job would be forensic sciences. I think the fact that architecture combines two of my passions would make it a perfect match for me.

Architects design buildings and their layout. The design is simply a plan. Before constructing a building, architects need to draw a plan of the building. Sometimes architects make a cardboard or plastic model of the building. The building is then built by a construction company which follows the directions of the plans for the building.

For this job you need an interest in buildings and their uses. Practical and scientific skills. A methodical, logical and analytical approach. Design and CAD skills. Strong mathematical ability. Good business awareness. Strong communication and negotiating skills. The ability to manage and lead a team. Math, science and negotiating skills are very important in this job.

Right now, the employment of architects is projected to grow 7 percent from 2014 to 2024, about as fast as the average for all occupations. In the future, competition for this job will be very strong because the number of applicants continues to outnumber available positions.

The annual wage for architects was \$74,520 in May 2014. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$44,940, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$121,910. Some firms pay tuition and fees toward continuing education requirements for their employees. Most architects work full time and then work additional hours, especially when they are facing deadlines. Self-employed architects are likely have more flexible work hours.

Prospective architects must complete a professional degree program that is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board in order to become licensed in most states. High school graduates who want to become an architect have to enroll in a Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) program.

According to a 2007 salary survey conducted by Architect Magazine, most employers pay 100 percent of their employees' health insurance premiums. Firms that did not cover all of the costs typically covered 75 percent to 80 percent of health care costs for employees. New architects averaged 1.3 weeks of vacation time. Architects earned more vacation time with rising experience and seniority. Those with one to four years of experience earned 1.9 weeks of vacation time while those with five to nine years of experience earned 2.3 weeks of vacation. More experienced architects earned up to an average of 2.8 weeks of vacation time per year.

The annual wage for architects is up slightly from \$73,090 in 2012 to \$74,110 in 2013. The best-paid 10 percent in the profession made about \$119,370, while the bottom 10 percent made approximately \$44,930. The metropolitan areas of Bridgeport, Connecticut; Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and Santa Cruz, California, are known to pay their architects the best.

Some perk about being an architect would be that architecture is a demanding profession that is a very interesting and creative one. Architecture is also never a boring career because of the variety of tasks it demands. No project is ever the same as the one that came before. Architects are also constantly dealing with different issues, such as meeting with clients and

contractors, drawing plans, looking at estimates, or working out last-minute details and requests. Even though many architecture schools have heavy math requirements, many architects say that very little math is actually involved. Most architects work in the profession not for the money but because they have a passion for their work, and this passion makes everything else worthwhile.

Some disadvantages of being an architect is that the process of becoming an architect is long, competitive, and expensive. It takes five years of school to earn a Bachelor of Architecture degree, plus an additional two to four years for a master's. Admission requirements vary considerably though, the most reputable architecture schools usually have extremely competitive standards with a heavy emphasis on the physical sciences, geometry, algebra, and trigonometry. Starting salaries for architects are considered lower than average when compared with other professional careers with similar requirements, such as medicine and law. Architecture is a very challenging and demanding field. Also, the architectural field varies to the ups and downs of the economy.

Architecture would be the perfect job for me. While it does have its ups and downs the job itself is worthwhile. If I pursue this career I would be helping others construct and create their own buildings. Not only would this make them happy but it would make me happy knowing that I was helping a company or companies. After all this research I really do believe going into the architectural field would be the right choice for me.

## Works Sited

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