



2020 COVID-19 Health Advisory

The New York Academy of Art has been closely following the public health situation regarding an outbreak of coronavirus, **Novel Coronavirus** (2019-nCoV), in Wuhan, China.

The safety and health of the Academy's students, faculty, administrators, and staff are of top concern. The Academy is monitoring guidelines and updates from NYC Health and from the Centers for Disease Control.

What to Know

Monitor your email for updates from the Academy.

The Academy's maintenance teams have been instructed to disinfect all public and group areas daily. This includes restrooms, door handles, sink areas, student lounge, the library, the elevator, classrooms, and stairwell handrails in particular.

There are currently no identified cases in the Academy community. As of March 4, there are 6 confirmed cases in New York City.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued new guidance that clarifies public health protocols for those who have returned recently from China. The guidance says: anyone entering the US from February 3rd onward who visited China in the previous 14 days should stay home for a period of two weeks following their last day in China.

When to Stay Home

Academy students, staff, teaching assistants, models and faculty are asked to stay home if they are sick. Symptoms of the coronavirus are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If you experience a fever, you should avoid class/work for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine.

In the unlikely event that someone in the Academy community contracts **2019-nCoV** the school will likely shut down for a period of time and follow quarantine and disinfecting procedures set forth by the CDC.

Ways to Stay Healthy:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth and face
- Keep home/personal spaces clean, disinfect common surfaces
- Avoid contact with sick people
- Cover your cough with tissue/paper towel or the crook of your elbow
- Increase your fluid intake

Awareness

Please be aware that the wearing of surgical or face masks in public spaces does not indicate the person in question is ill or infected with the coronavirus (or any other illness). Many people wear these masks as a precaution against themselves getting ill.

Upcoming Spring Break March 7th – March 15th:

If you are planning to travel during the spring break week, please feel free to notify us of your plans. This is not required, but communication is key to helping reduce the risk to everyone. You can email Noelle Timmons or Mike Smith.

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Academy guidance to students who have recently entered the US from China:

- Any student who had visited China in the two weeks prior to arrival should not attend class or other activities until a full 14 days has passed from their last day in China.
- **Students who have returned from Hubei from February 3rd onward** should follow the guidance above.
- **Students who were in Hubei but returned prior to February 3rd** should participate in a program to actively monitor for symptom development; the active monitoring will carry on until a full 14 days has passed from the last date the student was in Hubei.
- **Students who have been to China—but not to Hubei—since January 20th and returned to the US prior to February 3rd** should go about their regular activities. However, they should be mindful of their health, and if they start developing symptoms associated with the coronavirus— coughing, breathing difficulties, fever—they should contact their primary care physician.
- The Academy will continue to review local and state resources, to monitor the situation. The steps we are taking are in line with the most up-to-date guidance from government health authorities. They are meant to safeguard the health of the individuals who have traveled from China as well as the broader Academy community.
- The U.S. government has issued a travel advisory warning against all travel to China.
- The CDC has updated its travel health notice and now recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran.
- We will continue to update the community as this evolving situation develops.
- Resources to monitor the situation
 - <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/coronavirus.page>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
 - [New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#)
 - [World Health Organization](#)