NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART

2020 Spring Online Instruction Notice

Tuesday March 17, 2020

Dear Students,

We know this is a stress-provoking situation for everyone, and want you to know we are working our hardest to be creative, flexible, and understanding as we navigate forward through this global public health crisis. Nothing like this has ever happened in the Academy's history, and like most institutions, we are constantly adjusting to the ever changing waters. Our priority is to deliver and maintain the unique and rigorous level of instruction, programming, and opportunities that brought you to the Academy.

In light of the recent measures being taken against the spread of Covid-19, the Academy is taking the following steps to deliver your education while ensuring the health and safety of our entire community.

- All classes will be offered online starting Monday, March 23rd.
- All classes will adhere to the current class schedule.
- We will be using the Zoom Education conference platform as the delivery system for online classes.
- Instruction on the use of Zoom will be provided to faculty and students through videos and written instruction. Academic staff will also provide instruction for faculty and students who are not familiar with it, but it's quite easy to use.
- Faculty may also use email to send assignments and offer criticism. Other alternatives to Zoom may be employed.
- If demonstrations or PowerPoints are being offered, they can be live on Zoom or they can be prerecorded and shared with students via email or Dropbox.
- Michael Grimaldi will be testing Zoom with his classes this week. Any lessons learned from this experience will be shared with Faculty to help ease the transition next week.
- Critiques with Faculty Advisors will be available through Zoom, and sign-ups will be released tomorrow (Wednesdays at 1PM) via Doodle
- The Academy does not know how long we will be expected to offer online education, but we will be in touch as the situation develops.
- At this point, the Academic year has been pushed back by one week. Any further adjustments will be announced as they occur.
- We realize this is not the ideal way to deliver our specific education but ask that students work within these limits and the parameters allowed by our government and the CDC, and mitigate expectations. Accommodations will be made as necessary.
- Model time and some classes will be augmented with workshops later in the summer. This will be determined on a case by case basis.
- Additional counseling hours in the Student Assistance Program will be available through Zoom video conference.
- In the event of a government mandated closure, the Academy will give students as much notice as possible to retrieve their materials from the building.

Check out the Zoom website and learn more about the meetings platform here.
I will be conducting a short Zoom preview session for students **Thursday March 17 at 11am.** You will receive an invite to the session soon.

We have been thinking about creating opportunities and other ways to make up for the missed exposure of Tribeca Ball and Open Studios, as well as other academic and extra-curricular programming.

These are not promises. However, a few examples of the things that we know are important and would like to see happen are listed below.

•   Delivering oil-based clay to sculpture students
•   Sign-up critiques with prominent gallery owners and curators
•   Expanding online exhibitions (Thesis, Tribeca Ball, Summer Exhibition) to additional platforms
•   Having a scaled-down version of Tribeca Ball later in the summer
•   Replacing Summer Exhibition with the 2020 Thesis Exhibition for later in the summer

These are uncertain times and the situation is changing moment by moment. Please understand that we are doing our best to update you with the most current information in our planning and strategy. Stay informed through the media, limit social contact, and try to adhere to as many of the health regulations as possible.

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