

Smithsonian Associates Studio Arts COVID-19 Protocols for In-Person Classes

Updated as of 1/07/2022

Since our beginnings over 50 years ago, Smithsonian Associates has focused on providing *worry-free*, enriching, and enjoyable educational experiences for our lifelong learners. The well-being of our guests and staff members has always been our highest priority. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed new challenges but our commitment to these priorities remains unchanged.

We know the decision to join an in-person program is one where each of us must determine our own comfort level. To help you make your decision, we have outlined below the health and safety measures we are taking across all facets of our in-person programs.

We have worked with the Smithsonian COVID-19 Task Force to develop these measures, in accordance with CDC and Smithsonian guidelines. As the situation is fluid, we will be updating this document as we obtain any new information or guidance.

By registering for an in-person program, participants acknowledge they understand the risk factors involved in traveling during the pandemic and the preventative measures that are expected to be followed to mitigate exposure to COVID-19.

PRIOR TO YOUR STUDIO ARTS CLASS

Preparing for your class

To help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience, all Smithsonian Associates participants will be required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and present proof of vaccination. A person is considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after completion of a two-dose mRNA series or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. These requirements apply for all Smithsonian Associates in-person programs unless otherwise specified.

All attendees will be required to show proof of vaccination, along with a photo ID, upon check-in at all programs. Proof of vaccination should be a paper or digital record issued by an official source and should include your name, as well as the vaccine product and date(s) of administration for all doses you have received. As a safeguard, we recommend you take a photo of your card in the event the card is misplaced or lost (photos of cards will also be accepted).

Smithsonian Associates Participants

In order to provide a safe experience for our guests, we also need your help. By participating in an in-person class, you agree to make the following commitments to health and safety:

- Conduct a self-health assessment prior to joining the class and stay home if you are sick
- Present proof of COVID-19 vaccination (with the final dose received at least 14 days prior to your class) if you are 12 years of age and above
- Take reasonable measures to reduce the risk of exposure and follow all CDC guidelines, prior to, and throughout your class
- Wear a face mask while inside the classroom and practice social distancing
 - We have upgraded our mask requirements due to how contagious the omicron variant appears to be. A cloth or homemade mask on its own is no longer acceptable. Please wear one of the following:
 - Double masking (wearing a cloth mask over a surgical mask)
 - 3-ply surgical mask
 - KN95 mask
 - N95 mask

Failure to comply with the safety and commitments during the tour may result in your being excluded from the class.

CANCELLATION POLICY

During this time, we aim to be as flexible as possible. If you present any symptoms of COVID-19 prior to the class, are deemed a close contact with anyone testing positive for COVID-19, or have tested positive yourself, please let us know and we will transfer your payment to a future program. If you have tested positive in the month prior to the class, please follow all guidelines set forth by your local health department as well as [CDC guidelines](#).

If you are enrolled in a multi-week class and, at any point during the course, test positive for COVID-19 or are deemed a close contact with anyone testing positive, please follow the current [CDC guidelines](#) on quarantine and isolation until you can safely return to class.

AFTER YOUR CLASS

Participants will be asked to inform Smithsonian Associates immediately if they develop COVID-19 symptoms within 14 days following the program. Participants agree to be contacted by Smithsonian for COVID-19 contact tracing efforts if necessary.