

/ Windgate Art School Physical Requirements

General Accommodation Disclaimer: If you have any questions about accommodation or accessibility, please contact us in advance. We are happy to discuss how we can support your participation. The Windgate Art School has a wheelchair accessible entrance located in the AMFA west parking lot along Commerce Street.

Ceramics Studio: Wheel Throwing and Hand Building

Ceramics involve hands-on activities that may require a moderate level of physical ability. Please review the following to determine if the class is a good fit for you:

- **Standing and Walking:** Ability to stand for extended periods and move around the studio space safely.
- **Lifting and Carrying:** Comfort lifting up to 25 lbs. (such as bags of clay, tools, or workpieces).
- **Hand and Finger Dexterity:** Sufficient strength and control in hands and fingers for shaping clay, using tools, and operating a pottery wheel.
- **Seated Work:** Ability to sit at a pottery wheel for extended periods, often leaning forward while working.
- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights, accessible potter's wheel options. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Mobility and Balance:** Ability to bend, squat, and reach to access tools, materials, and equipment.
- **Coordination:** Good hand-eye coordination to safely use tools, glazes, and equipment.

Woodworking Studio

Woodworking involves the use of tools, materials, and machinery that require physical awareness and safe handling. Please review the following expectations before enrolling:

- **Standing and Moving Around:** Ability to stand for extended periods and move safely around the workshop.
- **Lifting and Carrying:** Comfort lifting up to 25 lbs. (such as wood pieces, clamps, or toolboxes).
- **Hand and Arm Strength:** Basic strength and control for using hand tools (e.g., hammers, saws, sanders) and holding materials steady.
- **Fine Motor Skills:** Good hand and finger coordination for measuring, marking, assembling, and detailed finishing work.
- **Balance and Stability:** Ability to maintain steady balance while standing for extended periods with the use of both hands for safe operation of saws and other power tools.

- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights; woodworking equipment may require assistance from a trained staff member or assistant. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Hearing and Awareness:** Ability to hear instructions over the noise of tools and stay alert to surroundings for safety.
- **Use of Safety Equipment:** Willingness and ability to wear required protective gear (e.g., safety glasses, ear protection, dust mask).
- **Dust and Noise Tolerance:** Comfort working in a shared environment with wood dust and moderate noise from tools and machines.

Glass Studio

Working with glass involves precision, heat, and handling of delicate materials. Please review the following physical requirements before enrolling:

- **Standing and Seated Work:** Ability to alternate between sitting and standing for extended periods, depending on the project.
- **Hand and Finger Dexterity:** Good fine motor skills and steady hands for cutting, arranging, and manipulating small pieces of glass.
- **Arm and Hand Strength:** Ability to use tools like glass cutters, pliers, and tweezers with control and moderate force.
- **Balance and Coordination:** Stable posture and coordination, especially when working with open flame during torchwork.
- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights; Glass Studio is a narrow space. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Vision:** Sufficient eyesight (with or without corrective lenses) for detailed, close-up work and to identify potential hazards.
- **Tactile Sensitivity and Awareness:** Comfort handling sharp edges, hot tools, and working near high heat sources (e.g., kilns and torches).
- **Use of Safety Equipment:** Willingness and ability to wear safety glasses and other protective gear as required.
- **Tolerance for Heat and Odors:** Comfort working near warm equipment (kiln, torch) and in environments where adhesives or fluxes may emit mild fumes.

Metals Studio

Metalsmithing involves hands-on work with tools, heat, and fine materials. Please review the following physical requirements to ensure a safe and successful class experience:

- **Seated and Standing Work:** Ability to sit or stand for extended periods while working at a bench or table.
- **Hand and Finger Dexterity:** Fine motor control and steady hands for detailed work such as sawing, filing, soldering, and assembling small components.
- **Grip Strength:** Moderate strength and stamina to use tools like hammers, pliers, mandrels, and metal shears.

- **Balance and Body Awareness:** Stability and awareness when using torches, enameling kilns, or polishing equipment.
- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights; some metalsmithing equipment may require assistance from a trained staff member or assistant. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Vision:** Ability to see fine detail (with or without corrective lenses) for precision work and safety.
- **Tactile Sensitivity:** Comfort working with small, sharp, or hot materials and tools.
- **Use of Safety Equipment:** Willingness and ability to wear required protective gear such as safety glasses, dust masks, aprons, and hearing protection.
- **Tolerance for Noise and Heat:** Comfort working in a shared studio environment where heat and tool noise may be present.

Drawing & Painting Studio

Drawing and painting classes involve creative, hands-on activities that require focus and light physical effort. Please review the following expectations before enrolling:

- **Seated or Standing Work:** Ability to sit or stand for extended periods while working at an easel or table.
- **Arm and Hand Mobility:** Comfort using arm, wrist, and hand movements for painting, sketching, and detailed mark-making.
- **Hand and Finger Dexterity:** Fine motor skills for handling brushes, pencils, erasers, and mixing tools with control and precision.
- **Vision:** Ability to see colors and details clearly (with or without corrective lenses) for accurate visual work.
- **Grip and Stability:** Ability to hold and control various art tools for sustained periods.
- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights; some easels and drawing equipment may require assistance from faculty. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Tolerance for Art Materials:** Comfort working with paints, solvents (such as turpentine or linseed oil in oil painting), charcoal, and other potentially messy or odorous materials.
- **Use of Protective Gear:** Willingness to wear aprons or gloves as needed to protect skin and clothing from stains or chemicals.
- **Mobility in Studio:** Ability to move around the classroom or studio space to access supplies, clean brushes, or view artwork from a distance.

Printmaking Studio (Flex Studio)

Printmaking involves a combination of artistic technique and manual processes that require moderate physical effort. Please review the following physical expectations before enrolling:

- **Standing and Seated Work:** Ability to sit or stand for extended periods while carving, inking, or printing.
- **Hand and Finger Dexterity:** Fine motor skills for detailed carving, drawing, rolling ink, and placing paper or plates with precision.

- **Arm and Upper Body Strength:** Sufficient strength to operate printing presses and apply even pressure when hand-printing.
- **Grip Strength:** Ability to use carving tools, rollers, and brayers with control.
- **Mobility and Balance:** Ability to move safely around the studio, bend, reach, and work at tables and operation of the printing press stations.
- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights; printing equipment may require assistance from faculty or a trained staff member. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Vision:** Ability to see detail clearly for image creation, alignment, and clean execution of prints (with or without corrective lenses).
- **Tolerance for Ink and Solvents:** Comfort working with inks, cleaners, and occasional solvent-based materials that may have mild odors.
- **Use of Protective Gear:** Willingness to wear aprons, gloves, or safety glasses as needed to ensure safety and cleanliness.

Textiles Studio (Flex Studio)

Textile arts involve repetitive motions, fine detail work, and sustained concentration. Please review the following physical requirements before enrolling:

- **Seated Work:** Ability to sit for extended periods while working at a loom, with needles, or on fiber-based projects.
- **Hand and Finger Dexterity:** Fine motor skills and steady hands for threading, stitching, knitting, and weaving small or delicate materials.
- **Grip Strength and Endurance:** Comfort using hands and fingers for repeated motions, such as knitting or operating loom pedals and shuttles.
- **Vision:** Ability to see detail, read patterns, and distinguish colors and textures (with or without corrective lenses).
- **Repetitive Motion Tolerance:** Comfort performing the same hand or arm motions for long periods.
- **Mobility and Reach:** Ability to reach across looms, access materials, and move safely around the studio.
- **Wheelchair Accessible Studio:** adaptable table heights; some equipment may require assistance from faculty or a trained staff member. We encourage you to contact us in advance at amoon@arkmfa.org to prepare and best support your experience.
- **Use of Tools and Materials:** Willingness to handle needles, yarns, threads, and loom equipment safely.
- **Seated Balance and Posture:** Ability to maintain upright posture while focusing on detailed work.

If you have further questions, please review our [FAQ](#) or contact Guest Services at **501.372.4000**.