

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts: Commitment to Health and Safety Policy

Welcome to William Holland School of Lapidary Arts! We want to assure you that the health and safety of our students, instructors, guests, and employees is a top priority. Please review our Health and Safety guide to help protect you while attending classes in 2022. Please read through this entire policy as many of our traditional events throughout the week have been changed slightly to provide a safer environment during your week on campus.

ORIENTATION/COMMON AREAS/GENERAL CLEANING POLICY

While on campus our main goal is safety, so we ask if you are moving, you are wearing a mask. As you walk inside through our hallways and dining room, we ask that you keep your mask on. Once you are seated, you may remove your mask unless directed otherwise. We will have arrows for directional guides when walking to help maintain social distancing. At this time, we are requiring all students, Instructors and guests to be vaccinated, with allowances for medical exceptions. All medical documentation, signed by a Physician must be submitted and approved prior to arrival for class. Approved nonvaccinated guests will be subject to covid testing and will also be required to wear a mask at all times except lodging areas and outside. **Please keep in mind that as the rates of infection move up and down significantly, our policy may change. These guidelines were created when the Delta variant was at its peak. Please continue to monitor our website and social media sites for changes to this policy.**

The school will be deep-cleaned and sanitized and will include a regular safety cleaning schedule based on CDC recommendations that will be maintained throughout the year. We have instituted a daily cleaning schedule specifically for high touch areas such as our cafeteria and public rest rooms. We will continue this policy for the 2022 season.

- We will implement employee safety training focused on social distancing awareness and correct cleaning procedures, based on CDC, State of Georgia and federal recommendations.
- Hand sanitizer stations are located throughout the buildings, as well as at the entrance to the cafeteria.
- A No-touch thermometer is available and may be used throughout the week upon entrance to large group areas and registration. We strongly encourage anyone who feels ill, to come to the front desk for a quick safety and wellness check.
- Check-in begins on Sunday at 3:00 pm. We ask that guests wear masks and maintain social distancing during this process. We will have designated, socially distanced seating spots for you to wait until called to the desk to register. Registration may take a bit longer than usual so please take this into consideration and plan accordingly so that you arrive in time to get checked in by 5:30 pm.

LODGING

- Guests may check out any time Friday afternoon or Saturday morning between 8:00 am and 9:00 am. However, we ask that all guests have completely vacated their rooms no later than 9:15 am. Your cooperation will allow our housekeeping staff to begin airing and deep cleaning the rooms for our next guests. No late checkouts are permitted. These check-in and check-out times are necessary for us to operate safely during the pandemic.

- **We are asking students to bring their own pillow and blanket...** to provide you a safe and sanitary environment, we will not be including these in your room. If you should forget, travel by plane, or need an additional blanket or pillow, please see the front desk. Please remember that all blankets and pillows must be sanitized between students, bringing your own will help reduce costs and extra burden on our housekeeping staff.
- Towels will be provided in the rooms as usual. We will no longer have laundry services on Wednesdays, so you may want to bring an additional towel. We will not be leaving extra towels in the rooms as we are required to wash all linen items between guests. Please let us know if you need an extra towel.
- Once guests check out, we are airing out the rooms, deep cleaning and sanitizing them. Once a room is cleaned and reset, no one will enter the room until the next guest arrives.
- For the 2022 season, we remain committed to making single rooms available to students. Students who pay for a single room will have priority... remaining students may receive a single room if one is available.
- Unless two people are sharing a room, only one bed will be made up per room. The other bed will be protected with a mattress cover and sheet.

DINING ROOM/MEALS

- Dining room seating allows for 6 per table, instead of our customary 8 to 10 per table.
- Masks will be worn in the dining hall until guests are seated at their table. Service will be buffet style, with hand sanitizer and gloves being provided upon entering the bar. Meal times will be extended, with no waiting for blessing or announcements, allowing for continuous flow of dining guests and fewer people congregated in the cafeteria. We ask that you exit the cafeteria when you are finished eating to allow others to eat while maintaining social distancing.
- Outside seating spaces will be added, with carry-out containers available for students who wish to take advantage of different seating options.
- All dining hall staff will be wearing masks and gloves during food service. The health of our employees is being carefully monitored. Any employee that has any reason to believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 or is showing symptoms is required to remain home and isolate as recommended by the CDC.-They will be eligible to return to work only after a negative COVID test, or approval from a health professional.

CLASSROOMS

Classrooms will have additional cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer. We will have a protocol for teachers to clean common areas, tools etc. throughout the day in the classrooms. Masks will not be required in the classroom unless the instructor gathers students for a demonstration. Our goal is to provide TV monitors for classrooms so students can remain seated and still see the demonstration. We will provide announcements to students in their classrooms instead of the cafeteria before meals to help with social distancing in the cafeteria.

EVENTS

Monday Night Demo: We will continue to have our demonstrations in the cafeteria using social distancing and large TV monitors for all to see.

Tuesday Night Auction: We will continue this fun activity and students are encouraged to bring their auction items as usual. We will have a large TV Monitor to cast-the auction items to for all to see, allowing us to maintain social distancing throughout the room. We ask everyone to wear a mask while moving throughout the cafeteria, however you may remove it once you are seated.

Thursday Night Tailgating: We will distance vendors in the cafeteria and teachers will sell in their classrooms. We ask all participants to wear a mask throughout this event. The hours will be extended to spread out the shoppers, asking some to start in the classrooms and others in the cafeteria. Guests will not be permitted at this event to avoid overcrowding.

Friday Show-n-Tell: We will strategically place student work in the cafeteria and use a single direction for traffic to flow. We will have instructors stay with student work to answer questions. Students will move through the event and exit doors to the outside. Once completed, we will allow each class, one at a time, to pick up show-n-tell items and head back to their classrooms. Masks will be required for this event. Lunch will follow this event starting at 12:00pm.

GENERAL

- In the instance a guest experiences potential COVID symptoms, they are required to let us know immediately. At that time, they will be asked to go to the Union General drive-through testing site in Blairsville for a free COVID-19 test, and to consult with a health care professional, if needed. We are working with local medical professionals to handle any potential guest illnesses and will follow their recommendations to protect the health of all guests and our staff.
- If a student or instructor tests positive, they will be asked to leave the campus and isolate at home. We ask that guests use good judgment while on campus, keeping in mind social distancing, sharing of items, and keeping each other safe. These protocols are based on the CDC and Georgia State guidelines currently in place. We continue to monitor guidelines set forth by the CDC and the State of Georgia. We reserve the right to update our protocols and policies as needed to keep guests and staff safe with surges or decreases in the COVID variants. We ask that you let us know if you have any issues or concerns.
- Our goal is to keep all of us safe and healthy, while continuing to connect in traditional ways at William Holland school of Lapidary Arts.
- We will have a NO Hugging or Handshaking policy. We know many of you are friends, and it is so tempting; however, we ask that you refrain this year with plenty of “air hugs” to go around for everyone!

***All procedures are subject to change based on guidance from the CDC and applicable government authorities. Please check our website and social media sites for updates to this policy.**

***At this time, we will not be accepting students under the age of 18 until further notice**

* Policy version 2022.01, written Nov 2021