



## **GLEN ECHO POTTERY COVID VACCINATION POLICY**

**Beginning November 1, 2021, all Glen Echo Pottery students and instructors must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 in order to attend classes, use open studio, and participate in other activities in our program.** We are issuing the guidance in September to allow sufficient time for any unvaccinated students or faculty to complete one of the three CDC-approved Covid-19 vaccines before the November 1 deadline: Moderna (two-dose), Pfizer (two-dose) or Johnson & Johnson (one-dose). *Note: We will also require our weekly contractors to be fully vaccinated in order to perform their work on our premises.*

**A number of pottery studios (e.g., District Clay, Hinkley Pottery, the Art League) and other arts-focused organizations in the DC Metro area have already instituted vaccine mandates.**

**Our decision to require vaccines is based on several key factors:**

- The Covid-19 Delta variant has proven to be hyper-infectious.
- Unvaccinated people account for the vast majority of COVID infections in the US; while breakthrough infections can happen and vaccinated people can spread the virus, unvaccinated people harbor more of the virus and can spread it for longer than vaccinated people.
- CDC recommends that all persons 12 years of age and older get the vaccine in order to protect themselves and others from serious illness from the virus; CDC is now poised to approve a lower-dose vaccine for children 5 to 11.

While we continue to take precautions—masking at all times indoors, maintaining a social distance of 3 feet, working outdoors weather-permitting—the bottom line is that the vaccine is our best line of protection as we pursue our craft at the pottery facilities.

### **Documenting your vaccine status with a photo of your CDC-issued Covid-19 Vaccination Card**

**Fully-vaccinated students should submit a clear photo of their CDC-issued Covid-19 Vaccination Card. Please email the photo to Julie Maltzman**

**at: [juliesmaltzman@gmail.com](mailto:juliesmaltzman@gmail.com).** Write "Vaccine Requirement" in the subject field of your email. Julie will notify you of receipt of your photo, create a record of your name and vaccination dates, and then delete the actual photo. This information will serve as evidence of your status. If you acquire a booster shot at a later date, we will add this information to your record. If you are just beginning a two-dose vaccine, submit a photo of your card after your first shot and then a second photo of the card once you have completed the series. If you have lost your CDC card, please contact your vaccine provider (where you received the shot) and ask for a new card. We will not accept any other

document as proof of vaccine. Please remember, starting November 1, we will not allow any student who hasn't completed either the Moderna, the Pfizer or the J&J vaccine to attend class.

### **Exemptions**

**Students may request an exemption for medical or religious reasons. In these cases, we will ask you to complete a form detailing your reason for a medical or religious exception along with supporting documentation from your physician and/or religious organization that substantiates your request. This submission does not automatically guarantee your exemption and you may need to provide additional information. Please contact Marsha Slater at [mwslater1@gmail.com](mailto:mwslater1@gmail.com) if you wish to initiate an exemption request. Please write "exemption request" in the subject field of your email.**

### **Weekly Covid-19 Testing required for exempted students**

**Students who request and receive a vaccine exemption will be required to submit a weekly negative virus test result in order to participate in on-site activities. The cost of the weekly testing must be paid by the student. Once we have approved an exemption request, we will provide further details regarding weekly test submissions.**

### **Tuition Refunds for Students who have registered for the November-December, 2021 pottery session but do not intend to meet the vaccine requirement and wish to withdraw.**

**The final pottery session of 2021 begins the first week in November and runs through December.** We understand that you may choose not to meet the vaccine requirement and may instead wish to withdraw from your upcoming class. In this case, the Glen Echo Park Registrar ([registrar@glenechopark.org](mailto:registrar@glenechopark.org)) will help you with the withdrawal procedure and issue you a full refund; please **contact the registrar at least two weeks before your November class start date** to ensure the refund.

### **Indoor Masking is still required even if we are all vaccinated.**

**All pottery students must continue wearing masks inside the yurts and in all other buildings located in the Park. The mask requirement is mandated by Montgomery County and must be observed until further notice.**

### **Future Covid 19 Vaccination Policy Adjustments/Up-Dates**

The Pottery may modify this vaccination policy for reasons including updates in CDC guidance or recommendations, or due to other changes in circumstances.

### **Questions/Concerns?**

**If you have questions about any aspect of this new vaccine requirement, please contact Marsha Slater at [mwslater1@gmail.com](mailto:mwslater1@gmail.com) at your earliest convenience. It is our goal to ensure the health and safety of all students and instructors at Glen Echo Pottery, and we believe an all-vaccinated pottery community will help us do that.**