



Dear Members of the SAA Community,

Tuesday, March 10, MIT announced significant updates to the Institutional response to COVID-19, and yesterday, March 11, there was an additional announcement sent to registered student groups that all events in classrooms and CAC spaces, and other student organization events registered in ATLAS are canceled as of 5pm Friday, March 13.

In keeping with this new guidance and for the wellbeing of our community members, **all Student Art Association programs and activities will be cancelled after the end of regularly scheduled classes on Thursday, March 12 through Friday, May 15.** I understand that many of you have in-progress work stored in the studios, and that some of you may want to retrieve your work and other personal items, while others may be unable to come to the SAA at this time.

In order to meet the needs of those who want and are able to retrieve their work, I will have office hours at the SAA from 10:30am-12:30pm and 2:00-7:00pm today, Thursday March 12, and 9:00-11:30am and 1:30-5:00pm Friday, March 13. During these times I am available to answer questions, to collect any equipment you have borrowed from the SAA, and to grant access to the studios for you to pick up your artwork and any other personal items. Additionally, Thursday ceramics and printmaking classes (which meet 4:00-10:00pm) are still scheduled to run, which will allow you time, outside of my office hours listed above, to access the studios. **Unfortunately, outside of these hours, you will not be able to access the SAA facilities.**

We do not know when MIT will return to “business as usual,” but I can assure you that your work will not be discarded in the interim, and we will do our best to respond to specific requests from those who cannot collect their work during the hours specified above.

If you are currently registered for an SAA class, I will be in touch with each of you individually in the coming days; decisions are still being made about refunds of SAA tuition so please be patient while we assess the situation, taking into account the specific circumstances of a community of 265+ individuals.

I understand that this news is disappointing and that the SAA is an important source of stress relief and social connectedness, but we are in an unprecedented situation and must follow Institute guidelines designed to address the public health situation. The SAA community is an extraordinary group of individuals whose shared devotion to teaching, learning, and creating reflects the very best that the Institute has to offer; we look forward to reconvening as soon as possible.

Thank you,
Stacy

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