

SHOP SAFETY

Art students at HSPVA are very privileged to have access to many labs and tools. With those privileges, comes enormous responsibility. Our # 1 concern is safety of all students, both physical and mental. The following rules are meant to help protect students and faculty when they are using the labs. We make great efforts to teach them to be careful and we hope you will reinforce this. Please note that if a student demonstrates poor judgment in shop safety, we reserve the right to rescind their shop privileges and provide alternate assignments.

Students are expected to follow all safety rules and to behave responsibly, respectfully and with the utmost of care in all shop areas. They must have been taught AT HSPVA how to use a tool before they are given the privilege and responsibility of access to it. Students must use every tool carefully and with respect to it, themselves and others. They must report any damaged or malfunctioning equipment to the instructor immediately. Working in a shop requires all personnel to pay attention to the surroundings and to what others in the area are doing, before beginning a task in the tool area. They should work with focused attention and not be rushed in any way.

Common sense dictates there be no joking or playing in the area or with tools. A clean work area is a safe work area so it is vitally important for all students to follow the Art Scout Golden Rule of leaving an area cleaner than it was left found.

+++++ EYE PROTECTION #1 RULE

STUDENTS MUST WEAR GOGGLES TO WORK IN WOOD SHOP OR COURTYARD OR OTHER AREAS where people are using power tools, chisels or hammers, whether THEY, personally are using the tools or not. This will protect them from dust and stray pieces of accidentally flying wood.

+++++ SHOES

STUDENTS MUST WEAR SHOP SHOES TO WORK IN WOOD SHOP OR COURTYARD OR OTHER AREAS. These must be closed-toed, sturdy uppers, preferably leather work type shoes. **Students will not be able to work in the shop in flip flops, soft canvas type shoes or shoes that do not adequately cover the feet. If they are taking Sculpture (11th & 12th) or Tooltime (woodshop-10th) this is critical, BUT EVEN IF a student needs to use the shop to build a stretcher for painting or printmaking, or needs to perform any other activity in the shop or courtyard, they are required to have this protection.**

+++++ CLOTHES

Long pants and socks are required in the shop and courtyard. No EXPOSED midribs! No loose clothing, jewelry, personal stereo cords, long baggie sweaters or shirts, loose long hair. These are all hazardous because they can get caught in machines. For metal work, long sleeves are necessary. Students may keep these items in their locker to change into at school.

+++++ NO PERSONAL STEREO IN THE SHOP or COURTYARD

Students need to pay as much attention as possible & need to hear the machine. Odd or unusual sounds can indicate a malfunction. In addition, they need to hear the instructors.

+++++ DUST PROTECTION

Wood dust and resin, formaldehyde, glues and fibers of wood can irritate the respiratory system. Students should use a clean dust mask each time the work, especially if they have allergies, asthma or are otherwise sensitive. Students may not share dust masks or return used ones to the box. When using the tools connected to the dust collection system, it should be turned ON. Sanding or using other hand tools or dremmels that create dust should be done outside. Students working in the proximity of any of these activities should also follow precautions.

+++++ HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Students CAN NOT HAVE CERTAIN "DANGEROUS" MATERIALS IN THEIR POSSESSION (matches, spray paint, glass, knives, blades, tobacco products, medication, ...). These are dangerous and having them can put students at risk of being "EXITED" under the district's "0 tolerance" rules. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct.

**Parents who have concerns or questions may contact
Ms. Montgomery at emontgom@houstonisd.org or at 713-942-1964.**