



Things you may be wondering about The 577 Foundation regarding COVID-19

(updated 3/19/2020)

Are you open?

As of 3/19/2020, all classes, meetings, indoor activities, and gatherings of people will be suspended at The 577 Foundation until further notice.

All buildings and offices will be locked except the Courtyard bathroom.

The grounds will be open for people to walk seven days a week between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Please:

- 1) Stay home if you feel sick or have been exposed to illness.
- 2) Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between you and others. That's about two standard shovel-lengths apart.
- 3) Take only pictures, leave only footprints. Carry out all of your trash and recyclables. Keep things at 577 looking nice for everyone.
- 4) Coronavirus can live on surfaces, including (but not limited to) door handles, benches, gliders, picnic tables, chairs, and Children's Garden equipment. If someone touched these since our last cleaning, ***we can't guarantee they're disinfected.***
- 5) Touch things at your own risk.
- 6) Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Hand washing is essential. Please do it often.

I am signed up for a class. What do I do?

All classes, meetings, indoor activities, and gatherings of people will be suspended until further notice.

Given how quickly the information is changing right now, we're not sure when it would be advisable for us to reschedule these classes. When the time comes that we can offer classes again, you'll be welcome to register then.

If your class has not started, you will receive a full class refund. If your class is in a series, we can offer you a pro-rated amount to account for the classes you were unable to take.

<p>I'm a community instructor scheduled to teach a class. What's happening with my class?</p>	<p>We will contact you to reschedule your class if possible. We will not be scheduling new classes until the classes affected by this are rescheduled first.</p>
<p>I want to register for a class in April, May, or beyond. Can I still do that?</p>	<p>Given how quickly the information is changing right now, we're not sure when it would be advisable for us to reopen our buildings for classes.</p> <p>Therefore, we will not be announcing May class registration on April 1 as previously scheduled.</p>
<p>I'm a pottery student.</p> <p>May I come for independent time?</p> <p>May I pick up my items?</p> <p>May I come and grab something to work on at home?</p> <p>Can we do wood kiln or raku since that's outside?</p>	<p>All classes, meetings, indoor activities, and gatherings of people will be suspended until further notice, including independent studio time and pick ups.</p> <p>All buildings and offices will be locked.</p> <p>Staff will do their best to keep an eye on your projects to keep them ready for you when you return.</p> <p>We won't be able to loan out tools, clay, or other materials.</p> <p>Even though wood kiln and raku are outside, shared tools and materials could spread the virus, so those programs have been suspended at this time.</p>
<p>I have been assigned a community garden at 577. May I tend it?</p>	<p>If you are one of the pre-assigned community gardeners, as of today you may come to plant and tend your garden within these guidelines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Bring & use your own tools to reduce the virus' spread 2) Keep a distance of 6 feet from others. Just to be safe, make it two standard shovels' lengths apart. 3) If you're able to plant a tad more than normal to give to food banks in a few months, please do. There could be more hungry people in need this year than usual
<p>Do you take book donations?</p>	<p>No – for safety and sanitary reasons, we will not be able to accept book donations until further notice.</p>
<p>May I come buy books from there?</p>	<p>No - Book Center operations have been suspended until at least further notice, to slow the spread of the virus and keep you and others from getting sick.</p>



<p>I have a meeting coming up there,</p>	<p>All classes, meetings, indoor activities, and gatherings of people will be suspended until further notice.</p>
<p>OR I'd like to reserve one of your rooms for a meeting.</p>	<p>Scheduling priority will be given to groups that have to reschedule their meetings during March and early April. We will not be booking any new meetings until further notice.</p>
<p>I'd like to bring a group for a tour or field trip.</p>	<p>All classes, meetings, indoor activities, and gatherings of people will be suspended until further notice. Priority will be given to groups that have to reschedule their tours during March and early April. We will not be booking any new tours until further notice.</p>
<p>I'm trying to donate something to 577. Will you take it?</p>	<p>At this time, we won't be accepting donations of items from community members for sanitary and safety reasons. If you'd like to make a financial donation to help us weather this storm, you can do so online at http://577foundation.org/Donate.html</p> <p>Or, consider donating to reputable social service organizations that are serving the most vulnerable people in our community right now.</p>
<p>Can we have a picnic there?</p>	<p>Yes, but "take only pictures, leave only footprints." Carry out your trash from 577. Leave things impeccably clean and sanitary for everyone else. Keep a distance of at least 6 feet from visitors from other households. Follow all of the general visitor guidelines from page 1 of this guide.</p>
<p>I'm a photographer and I'd like to take people's portraits at 577.</p>	<p>This activity will be suspended until further notice so that visitors coming for nature time have the priority.</p>
<p>Will The 577 Foundation be ok?</p> <p>What can I do to help?</p>	<p>At this time, we have a bright, experienced team of people working to keep 577 Foundation executing our pandemic response plan. We are taking care of our staff, buildings, and grounds so that when the danger passes, we can reopen as best we can. You can help right now by practicing social distancing, washing your hands, staying home when you're sick, and other preventative measures so that everyone stays healthy.</p>



AAAH! I'm a hugger. What do I do?!

We know. We are too. But for now, avoid social greetings like shaking hands and hugging. Our favorite alternative greetings include JAZZ HANDS!, putting your hand to your heart, or putting your palms together and bowing to the other person from a distance of at least 6 feet.

Have some fun creating new no-touch greetings that you can do from two standard shovels' lengths away from the other person.

Are people just overreacting to this?

Let's talk about glitter. Stick with us.

If you've ever had even a little bit of glitter in your house, you know that it spreads to places you couldn't have dreamed of for weeks after it first appeared. You end up with a speck of glitter on your face that you don't know how it got there. Your friends and family get it. It comes with you everywhere you go until it falls off somewhere.

COVID-19 is like invisible glitter that makes people very sick and could kill people.

If we all walk around our daily lives with COVID-19 and don't know we have it, the "glitter" still gets on everyone else. If that happens enough, we all end up in the hospital at the same time, which would be very bad.

Social distancing is about keeping the majority of the population healthy so that hospitals will not get overwhelmed all at once. That helps hospitals serve the people most at risk and protect their front line workers. It's a responsible preventative step, and one that is necessary at this time.

What we have to do right now is keep our glitter to ourselves. Clean and disinfect everything. Wash your hands. Stay home if you're sick or if you've been around someone who is sick. Stay away from other people and their glitter.

Keep your glitter to yourself. But never stop shining, little star.

