

## **SAFETY & POLICIES**

## **Painting and Drawing Studios**

All students that share the painting studios are expected to adopt the practices and responsibilities listed below. The painting and drawing studios are communal spaces.

Please observe the basic rule of camping: *leave the space in better condition than you found it!*

### **VENTILATION**

The building's ventilation system is designed to work properly only if it is recycling the air within the room. An open door will bring fresh air into the room from the hallway, and pushes solvent fumes into the hallway, offices and other classrooms. The classroom door should remain closed at all times

### **SOLVENTS**

In an effort to minimize solvent evaporation, keep the air quality clean, and to minimize any risk of fire, please adhere to the following rules:

- Odorless solvents are the only solvents allowed in the building. **Turpenoid** and **Gamsol** are both good options, as they have a very low rate of evaporation. No Turpentine, xylene, or any other noxious liquids. No mystery liquids found in garages. No orange-scented solvents.
- No spray paint, fixative, or other noxious materials are to be used in the studios- there is a spray booth on the second floor.
- When not actively using the solvents, please keep the containers covered to minimize evaporation.
- Do not use paper towels for any oil-based paint cleanup. The PDS department provides rags that can be laundered and reused. These rags should be used sparingly as they are not cheap.
- Please dispose of any rags containing solvents or oils in the metal-lidded containers. Do not throw anything containing oils/solvents in the regular trashcans. These materials can spontaneously combust.
- Do not use paper palettes as they're flammable. Glass or plastic palettes are safe.
- The solvents used in oil painting can be reused many times. Do not dump relatively clean solvents into the container at the end of each class. Paint solids sink to the bottom of the container, and the top becomes a "clean" and re-usable solvent. Keep several jars of solvent handy, so you can pour off the clean liquids and reuse.  
The "dirty" goop can then be pored into the solvent container at the studio door.
- Do not dump any solvents in any sink. Dirty or unusable solvent can be disposed of in the plastic containers in the studio.
- Immediately clean up and properly dispose of any solvent or paint spills.
- Do not use eyewash stations to clean brushes (this one should be obvious and yet it happens)