

Comments from Our Returning Students

About DCC's Safety Steps: July 2020

<p>Kudos to DCC for doing everything and more to ensure we are safe and fully protected during this tough time. It starts with taking our temperature, washing our hands, and masks for all, using tools washed in disinfectant solution. Every surface and tool is disinfected.</p> <p>The wheels are separated by physical divisions creating self contained places to wedge, throw, trim, use wax and underglaze. Everyone is masked and six feet apart. I feel very comfortable, I have been going for two weeks and will continue.</p> <p>I am strict and maintain myself on lockdown because I see my 93 year old mother once a week (masked ad six feet) and I don't believe DCC as it's set up, compromises these visits. Thank you DCC!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Maria Otero</i></p>	<p>As a healthcare professional and as a person on the front line who has cared for COVID19 patients, I can say with confidence that the steps District Clay has taken to ensure the safety of our students and instructors make me feel safe.</p> <p>The universal use of face masks, temperature taking, hand washing, and social distancing in large well-ventilated spaces are all in line with local and federal agencies. HEPA filtered air in the wheel rooms goes one step further.</p> <p>They have taken extra care to provide a safe experience by reducing class sizes, building personal glaze stations, and creating an easy to follow disinfection protocol for wheels and tools to make sure that everyone is protected during the against COVI-19.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cole Norton</i> <i>Certified Nursing Assistant</i></p>	<p>The experience at District Clay Center has been amazing! The thought and details put into the new procedures made me feel very safe.</p> <p>The steps at the door to ensure that folks have clean hands before entering the common spaces makes me feel comfortable touching items at the sink and throughout the studio space.</p> <p>I also appreciate everyone keeping their masks on the entire time, and the plywood in-between wheels(every other wheel occupancy). Thanks for making this trying time feel a little better and being considerate in all procedures.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Brittany Machmer</i></p>
<p>I was initially a little nervous about coming back to class to be completely honest, but decided to give it a try. I was incredibly impressed with the set up, especially the new barriers between wheels and the new cleaning and sanitization practices put in place.</p> <p>All aspects of class have been well thought out and allow for social distancing, and I felt very safe the whole time!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Melissa Guerrero Gelinias</i></p>	<p>Everyone has clearly gone above and beyond to make sure students feel safe. The precautions taken are something I wouldn't think of myself, and they made me feel very safe and taken care of.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Gaby Silva</i></p>	<p>There was a lot of thought and consideration put into the layout and workflow of the studio! Never once did I feel unsafe and all students and teachers are able to mindfully respect everyone's space.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jessica Zadlo</i></p>
<p>I really appreciate all the effort the the District Clay team has put in to making sure everyone feels safe. There was plenty of space between people when I last visited.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Drew Courtney</i></p>	<p>I was vey impressed with the changes the studio has made to ensure out safety. The new protocols are necessary and I am very comfortable in the studio!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Yvette Woods</i></p>	<p>I have lots of space to work and it's easily to socially distance. I also have my own tools and can easily disinfect the few items I have to share.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Emily Witko</i></p>
<p>I am impressed with the precautions and overall feel safe.</p>	<p>I think you all have done a really great job at making the space safe. I am extra extra careful which is why I don't feel 100% comfortable but it is not due to a lack of safety</p>	<p>District Clay has considered every detail (if not every then every detail I can think of) in its reopening strategy. There measures in place have truly impressed me. Most notably</p>

<p>The big shelves in the center of the room make it difficult to see other people, which is important to feel part of a group without being close to each other. It also is VERY hot in the studio and being on the edge of the room means the fans are not as cooling.</p> <p>I would appreciate it if there's a way to add air conditioning to keep it comfortable [<i>DCC note - the A/C has been adjusted and it should now be cooler!</i>] But overall everyone was considerate and careful and as long as it's not crowded it feels relatively safe & I will continue to come.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Mindy Hurwitz</i></p>	<p>standards in place just that covid is scary.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Nazanin Yousefnejad</i></p>	<p>these measures include: air circulation, temperature-taking, sanitation, physical distancing with markings on the floor and physical barriers between work stations, special disinfectants for different materials, and lots of signs in case you forget or need additional guidance.</p> <p>This is on top of mandatory mask-wearing. Everyone is doing their part and is eager to get back into the studio safely.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Anonymous</i></p>
<p>District Clay is taking more precautions than either my office or my medical facility. Seriously.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Sarah</i></p>	<p>I've attended two onsite classes so far and feel very safe. The check in, distancing and cleaning protocols are excellent, and everyone wears a mask all the time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Barbara Stauffer</i></p>	<p>I like that DCC prioritizes safety and has accommodated social distancing, provides disinfectant for common areas and requires that everyone wear a mask.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Carol Jenkins</i></p>
<p>I'm technically not a student, but a community artist and a Children's (class) teacher. I think you've gone above and beyond. The difficulty is that many students are there for the social experience. So you do you do safe and social?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Carole Herwig</i></p>	<p>District Clay has gone above and beyond to reconfigure the studio, implement safety protocols, and provide everyone the supplies needed so we can all do our part.</p> <p>Thanks to this, the transition to our new studio life has been seamless and comfortable.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Mia Angel</i></p>	<p>I am so grateful for the lengths DCC has gone through to make the studio safe. There's such a palpable commitment to making health the priority but accessing clay (our shared passion!) a possibility and a joy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Anonymous</i></p>
<p>District Clay has done an exemplary job of taking precautions to keep the studio safe during the age of COVID. I especially appreciate the new partitions between the wheels and the improved ventilation system.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Amber Latner</i></p>	<p>The team at District Clay has been extremely conscientious in reorganizing and space planning for the safety of all of the students. It is a lot to adjust to, but all very thoughtful and thorough.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Alicia Wilson</i></p>	<p>The health and safety protocols that DCC has put into place make me feel very safe. It has been nice to allow myself this creative outlet for my mental well-being without compromising my physical wellness.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Kristine Erickson</i></p>
<p>DC has clearly put a lot of effort into ensuring students can safely social distance around the studio and developed protocol for disinfecting stations and tools. I feel very safe coming back!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Erin Holdenreid</i></p>	<p>The steps for entering District Clay are well thought out and organized.</p> <p>Once in, all the tools/wheels are properly sanitized and spaced apart. The space is large enough to move in without feeling too close to others so you can relax and create without feeling the pressure to be closer to people than you feel comfortable.</p>	<p>You did an amazing job to make it a safe place. It would be very helpful to have those low white tables back, even if we have to share them, to set the pieces we are working on. Otherwise, I have to place them on the floor around me and I'm sure sooner or later I will step on them.</p> <p>Hope this can be done, but I understand it is not easy to set the place in the current situation.</p>

	<p>Thanks for going above and beyond in order to make people feel relaxed. Being able to go back in the studio is a serious boost.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Mary Shipley</i></p>	<p>Thank you for the effort!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Debbie Gagnetten</i></p>
<p>While the space setup, strict schedule, and Covid rules are great and feels safe, the current no drop-in rules makes it challenging to bring the pottery process to completion in a timely manner.</p> <p>For example, I used to start from 6 pm into the next class when spaces were available, or return the next evening to trim pots when ready. With the new setting, I think it would work best if to throw either at the studio or home with a rental wheel with sign up system to access the studio for glazing and firing.</p> <p>Thank you for doing so much for us during this difficult time!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Yen-Wen Chau</i></p>	<p>I have attended the re-opened classes now for 2 weeks and I am impressed by the changes made to accommodate distancing allowing wedging and waxing at the cubicles for each wheel.</p> <p>Great efforts to maintain cleanliness and disinfection of common areas and tools. I hope more people can be encouraged to return so the studio remains open.</p> <p>I also feel I learn more in class than staying at home. While some tuition can be done as easily on-line as in class there is more interaction in class with other students, exchanging ideas and so on which cannot be done so easily on-line. So I appreciate the studio opening again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Barbara Levedahl</i></p>	<p>I was nervous about coming back to the studio because I haven't gone indoor anywhere besides my house since March... and the changes that District Clay has made to the physical space and protocols are wonderful, thoughtful and</p> <p>I feel perfectly safe being back. Thank you for your diligence to making it feel (and be) safe.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Hilary Cook</i></p>
<p>I went to the Thursday class and there were only two other students plus my instructor and one other Person I think might work at the studio.</p> <p>I felt really safe and love the new pod style units and that you can wedge your clay at the wheel. I had a hard time finding some of my old work but I found enough to get stuff done and I was really happy to be back.</p> <p>Thanks for the comprehensive work you guys have done it's really nice to be back playing with clay!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Nicole Reidinger</i></p>	<p>I was back for the first time this morning. I am so impressed with everything you guys have done. It felt completely safe. It was wonderful to be back! Thank you!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Gemma Flamberg</i></p>	<p>The Center's looking great! You and your team have done an incredible job making it safe, plus all the new and improved glazes coming, library book recommendations, etc. You've made good use of the closure.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Anne Shoemaker</i></p>
	<p>Having the wheels spaced out with partitions between each, wearing masks, and limiting the number of students at each sink at a time made me feel safe and relaxed making pottery.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Amy Minish</i></p>	