

Indian River Clay, Inc. 2024 Open Studio Membership

Indian River Clay Inc. (IRC) is a non-profit charitable collaborative of member artists founded in 2018 to promote the learning and development of *clay skills*. We foster a community that inspires curiosity and discovery around the art and craft of clay, drawing together students, artists, and an engaged public. We believe that every person is an artist, and that clay is a perfect medium through which to explore our talents. *Every day in our studio* we strive to deepen the connection between people and clay with the highest quality programs because we believe that shared creativity, so fundamental to humanity, is a critical force for good.

PREREQUISITES TO MEMBERSHIP:

1. As IRC operates a non-instructional and unsupervised studio, potential members must demonstrate their craft in one of the following ways:
 - a. Completion of a 4-8 week IRC-sponsored class.
 - b. Obtain the recommendation of an IRC Board member.
2. Members must participate in a studio orientation on studio protocols and equipment usage.
3. Members must agree to the terms and conditions of membership by executing this agreement.
4. Members must execute the indemnity agreement included in the membership packet.
5. All memberships are granted as studio space permits.
6. The age requirement for membership is 21. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Board.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

1. Timely payment of membership fees either in person at the studio or online at www.indianriverclay.org with options currently priced as follows (checks made payable to Indian River Clay):
 - Monthly (online payment) **\$125** per month paid with credit or debit on website
 - Monthly (in studio payment) **\$118** per month paid with cash or check
 - Pre-paid Annual: **\$1300**/year payable by cash or check only
 - As Indian River Clay functions with limited paid management, each member must volunteer time toward the smooth operation of the studio. Members agree to volunteer 4 hours each month in their assigned committee.
 - Payments made after the 5th will include a \$10 late fee. If payment is not received by the 10th, membership will be terminated.
2. All clay used at IRC must be purchased from IRC to enable safe firings in IRC kilns. Clay is currently sold to members at \$30 per new bag (\$40 per bag of Porcelain) or \$10 per recycled (pugged) bag, tax inclusive. Purchase of a bag of clay includes the firing and use of dipping glazes.

IRC will periodically review membership requirements, including the fee schedule, and notify members in advance of any changes.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

1. Access to the studio is generally available on a 24-hour basis. However, the studio is unsupervised, and access is at the Member's own risk. IRC will schedule classes and special events that may prohibit or restrict Members from working in the studio. We maintain a visible calendar in the studio and on the website that members are given advance notice of these situations.
2. Unlimited firings and use of studio dipping glazes (upon purchase of clay). However, **Indian River Clay is not a production studio and members cannot expect to have any work processed on a preferred basis. Additionally, the Board reserves the right to limit the size or quantity of firings to ensure equitable studio use by all members.** While precautions will be taken to ensure that work fires without damage, breakage occasionally happens, and the studio will not be held responsible for such damage.
3. Members are assigned a dedicated space in which to store work and tools. Members are expected to restrict their storage to this personal space.
4. Use of studio equipment such as wheels, slab roller, extruder, etc. **The artist is responsible for providing his/her personal clay tools, glazes, etc.** Studio members assume all risks associated with use of studio equipment, including personal injury or damage to equipment for which the user shall be responsible. The studio will periodically have some supplies and tools on hand which are made available to all members for use on premises, however, the studio is not obligated to have such items on hand. **No equipment, supplies, or tools may leave the premises at any time.**
5. Various retail opportunities may be provided by IRC and IRC will notify its members in advance of such opportunities. Members can expect that IRC will retain a commission for member sales at such events. IRC will compute, collect, and remit sales tax for items sold at such events and report commissions of \$600 or more paid to members, via a 1099 statement.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Sign in and out each visit on the sheet provided right inside the door. This includes compliance with any health and safety measures.
2. Leave each workspace better than you find it; clean common areas after each use. Wipe down wheel/stool, wedging table, work table, sink, etc., each time before moving on. Perform a studio cleaning task as posted near the door.
3. Put personal items away at the end of your studio session.
4. Members will always clean **WET!!!!** Sweeping will kick up dust which hangs in the air for 72 hours and damages the lungs. Only sweep leather-hard shavings.
5. Mark your work with an ID. Anything not marked will not be fired until marked.
6. Members will respect the art and tools of other clay artists in the studio. **Use and touch only things that are your own. Never touch others' work on the bisque or glaze shelves in the kiln room.**

7. Indian River Clay will not tolerate anti-social behavior such as bullying or threatening. No weapons or drugs are allowed on the premises.

Report problems to the Board so that they can be dealt with before becoming larger issues. Indian River Clay wants to maintain a pleasant, comfortable, and safe environment for all who use or visit the studio. We expect everyone to be respectful, kind, and conscientious at all times.

- Phone calls should be taken outside.
- Conversations should be of a quiet nature.
- Please: No Political or Religious Discussions.

8. Members may have studio guests with advance approval of the Studio Administrator. The guest fee is currently \$25 per day and will be collected for each visit. You are responsible for the behavior of your guests. Members should be considerate in using this guest privilege and recognize that it is not a substitute for any individual becoming a member themselves. No pets (service animals excluded).

SUBLET OF MEMBERSHIP

IRC recognizes that many Members do not reside in the area all year long. To accommodate seasonal use of the studio, IRC allows Members to sublet their use of the studio under the terms of the Indian River Clay Sublet Policy. Please note that such subletting does not relieve the Member of chore responsibilities or the obligation of paying the chore supplement. For further details, please refer to the Sublet Policy

REVOCAION OF MEMBERSHIP:

There may be the rare instance where a member is not working well within the studio parameters set forth by IRC and may be asked to leave. In this case, IRC will refund any fees paid for unused studio time. Any remaining work not fired will be fired through its current stage and available for pick-up by the former member.