



## Memorandum

Cleveland Institute of Art | 11610 Euclid Avenue | Cleveland, Ohio 44106

**To:** Students, Faculty and Staff  
**From:** Grafton Nunes, President + CEO  
**Date:** February 23, 2021  
**Subject:** Planning for summer and fall semester at CIA

Dear CIA Community,

Whether with regard to our personal lives or our creative and academic pursuits here at CIA, something we've all sought throughout the pandemic, but that's been in short supply, is certainty.

That said, as we look ahead to CIA's summer session and Fall 2021 semester, I hope to offer as much certainty in terms of planning as the pandemic's ever-changing circumstances will allow. Although many specifics are still to be determined, now is the time to put in place a framework for the remainder of 2021.

Through July, we intend to keep in place the health and safety protocols that have proven successful throughout this academic year. Distancing, masking and cleaning procedures will remain in effect, and we're confident those procedures will lead to the successful delivery of in-person Pre-College and Summer Teacher Residency programs.

For fall semester, I'm excited to share that we anticipate returning to pre-COVID operations in terms of academic delivery and building occupancy. Much planning and hard work must be done, but make no mistake, that's the goal toward which we're now working. We'll offer details of how that will look and what to expect as soon as we're able.

It must be noted, however, that a number of factors could affect our plans. Chief among them is Ohio's vaccine distribution. To date, state officials haven't announced how or when the vaccine will be shared with colleges and universities. Timing and efficiency are critical, as is our community's willingness to be vaccinated when it's our turn. We'll stand ready to modify our approach and protocols as needed.

Like it has done with all of CIA's pandemic responses, our COVID Task Force will closely monitor vaccine developments and discuss them—as well as any other matters that will inform summer and fall planning—during its biweekly meetings. We intend to have a final decision about fall semester in place no later than July 15, though we hope to know more before then.

Among the few certainties of this pandemic have been the value of preparation and the benefits of quickly and creatively responding to challenges. Our community has demonstrated time and again that CIA is strong in both regards. If factors out of our control force us to change course, I'm proud to say that—thanks to our community's collective effort—we'll be well-positioned to pivot and continue educating artists and designers at the world-class level expected of CIA.

Grafton Nunes  
President + CEO