

# METCHOSIN INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

**MISSA 2020: June 27 – July 10 (14 days!)**

Do you want to experience an amazing group of talented artists who would soak up what you have to offer and inspire you beyond your expectations? Come teach with us!



## Instructor FAQs

### 1. What types of workshops are generally offered at MISSA?

Workshops are offered in all fine art mediums including, but not limited to; ceramics, painting, mixed media, drawing, printmaking, papermaking, textiles, photography, creative writing, music and more. The workshops are generally geared towards creative process and experimentation, rather than product. If your medium of choice is not on this list, please let us know!

### 2. Who are the students that attend MISSA?

MISSA has a strong following of perennial students along with a fresh batch of new folks every year. The 2019 stats showed that 72% of participants were 55 years of age and older and that 92% were women. Their artistic backgrounds are diverse and 23% identified as professional artists and 45% identified as serious students. Almost half of the students come from Victoria and the surrounding area and the remaining students come from across Canada and the US (and as far away as Japan and Brazil!).

### 3. How are the studios set up?

MISSA transforms a college campus, with regular classrooms, into art studios. Preventative measures are taken to protect the tables and floors. Water usage is limited and sometimes requires the use of a hose and a temporary sink outside. Specifications about studio needs can be outlined in the course description. State what you need starting from the visual of an empty classroom.





#### **4. How is the student cost of a workshop determined?**

The cost of all workshops are a set price determined annually by MISSA, based on the fees charged by Pearson College and other expenses to be paid. The course tuition for students is inclusive of daily lunch and snacks and the day-rate Pearson charges for the use of the campus. Materials provided by the Instructor are extra and charged in addition to the tuition fee. For example, if a workshop is \$300 and instructor provided material fees are \$45 per student, the student would pay \$345 upon registering. This material fee is then reimbursed to the instructor at the end of MISSA. MISSA offers over 40 workshops every summer and strives to remain both fiscally responsible and in-line with similar community offerings.

#### **5. What is the compensation package?**

MISSA will pay an instructor honorarium, cover travel expenses and cover your room and board. You will also be exposed to what we call “MISSA Magic”, a priceless experience that happens when the beauty of a place inspires a group of people to be their best creative selves.

##### **a. What are the accommodations like?**

The campus has five dormitories with ten rooms in each house. There are two floors with 4 beds in every room (6 rooms downstairs and 4 rooms upstairs). There is a shared bathroom on each floor with private showers. Instructors share a dorm room with one other instructor (double occupancy). All bedding and towels are provided. If you choose to stay off campus, you are responsible for making your own arrangements. All dormitories have been upgraded with the last house being renovated in tandem during MISSA 2020.



**b. What is the food like?**

MISSA participants share all meals in the communal dining hall. Lunch and daily snacks are available to all day students and dinner and breakfast are available to those staying on campus. Most meals are set up in a buffet style with salads and fruit offered daily. Please make a note on your course information form if you have any special dietary restrictions including vegetarian, vegan, gluten/ceciac or specific allergies. The kitchen tries their best to accommodate requests. You are sure to be impressed with the food and you will definitely be well fed!

There is Happy Hour (5:30 – 6:30pm), with a cash bar, serving drinks on the patio before the Welcome Dinners and special events.

**c. What art supplies will MISSA cover?**

Students are responsible for bringing supplies related to your workshop as outlined in your course form, “Student Supply List”. Please be as accurate as possible with what supplies are required and what supplies are optional. Many students travel and are understandably frustrated when they have spent money on and lugged supplies that were not needed.

MISSA will cover any expenses that have been outlined in your course form that are needed for your workshop, including demo materials. We do not cover a user fee for sharing your tools. If MISSA buys a tool, then MISSA will own the tool. MISSA has a few supplies already in stock, please inquire.

**d. Will I be compensated for travel?**

MISSA will cover economy travel as outlined in your course form. Your location will be based on the address that you provided in your course form. Please let the office know if you move or intend to move before MISSA. You will need to get yourself to Victoria and MISSA will get you to and from the campus. Victoria includes either the Victoria International Airport or the downtown Coho/Clipper. Local instructors are responsible for getting themselves to and from the campus. Travel will be compensated on a per km basis for distances over 100 km return.

**e. How much will I be compensated for teaching?**

Workshops run 9 – 4 pm with a break for lunch 12-1 pm. MISSA pays the same honorarium to every instructor for a 6 hour work day. Updated rates for 2020 are \$600 for a 2-day workshop and \$1500 for a 5-day workshop. Prices are listed and paid in Canadian dollars. GST will be added, if applicable, for Canadian residents. You will be paid on your honorarium on your last day of class. American instructors will receive an invitation letter to use for crossing the border and as a courtesy, arrangements can be made to be paid in US funds.

MISSA will cover your meals and accommodation so that a 2-day workshop has an added value of \$350 and a 5-day workshop has an added value of \$900.

**f. Can I sell my artwork?**

As an instructor, you are able to sell your work to your students. It is a very popular opportunity for students to be able to buy a piece directly from their instructor. Please make sure that if you are going to sell anything, that you bring enough. Recently, an instructor brought only 5 pieces to sell and he had 12 students, needless to say, it almost came to fistcuffs. Selling your art be a lucrative opportunity for instructors and MISSA does not take any commission. All sales are the responsibility of the instructor.

**6. What am I expected to do after workshop hours?**

- a. Workshops run from 9 – 4 pm daily, (6 hours teaching with lunch from 12-1 and snack breaks at 10:30 and 2:30) Instructors are expected to be available to students during workshop times. Many students want to maximize their time in the studio and they are welcome to stay late. Many students are commuters and will need to leave shortly after class. Your evenings are your own but there are many activities while you are on campus.

- b. 2-day Instructors are expected to participate in an **Open Studio Tour** on Saturday night (7-9pm), which is an opportunity for fellow MISSA students, and the public alike, to check out the various studios across the campus. Instructors are invited to stay in their studios to welcome guests or demonstrate as you like. There is a small lecture theatre available to book if you wish to do a short presentation. This theatre is also available to book if you would like to show any presentations to your students during your class time.
- c. 5-day Instructors are expected to do a 10 to 12- minute power point/slide show presentation about their own artwork. These **MISSA Talks** take place on Monday and Tuesday nights starting in the Max Bell Hall at 7:15 pm and are open to MISSA students and the public at large. These are very popular events as they are a unique opportunity to showcase the amazing diversity and talent of MISSA instructors.

- d. Other campus activities include: **yoga** (Drop-in \$15: Tues/Thurs morning and Wed afternoon), **bodywork** (Mon-Fri: you can book when on campus) a **pool and gym** (open 6:30 am till 10:30 pm) and a spiritual center for quiet contemplation.



#### 7. **Can I teach a workshop just before or after MISSA?**

We ask that you do not teach a similar workshop close to your time at MISSA, to give the best chance for your workshop to run. Please contact the MISSA office if you have any concerns or if you have opportunities for a partnership with another organization. For example, if a local guild is also interested in having you do a workshop for them, please have them contact MISSA so that arrangements can be discussed.

**8. Other Commonly Asked Questions:**

**a. Can my partner/family stay with me?**

We are not able to have partners stay on campus unless they are also taking a class. If your partner takes a workshop, we can make arrangements for the two of you to share a room. MISSA is an adult campus and all participants must be 19 years or older. Loveable as they are, pets are not allowed on campus.

**b. Am I required donate a piece of art?**

It is optional to donate a piece of your artwork to the annual MISSA Silent Auctions. The earlier you can donate, the more we can expose your piece on our website and social media outlets before the auction. Some instructors choose to donate a piece of art they make during MISSA. Canadian instructors will receive a tax donation for the value of their piece. The Silent Auctions take place on the second and last Fridays of MISSA and are our biggest and most coveted summer fundraisers. Your donation is greatly appreciated!

**c. Will MISSA promote my workshop?**

MISSA will be promoting the whole summer program of over 40 workshops. We have a website and social media outlets, including facebook (missamagic) and Instagram (@missamagic). We also have brochures and posters. Instructors are asked to do their part promoting their own workshop within their own networks. Promotional materials are available, please inquire at the MISSA office ([missa@missa.ca](mailto:missa@missa.ca)).

**d. If my workshop is accepted, is it guaranteed to run?**

Unfortunately, acceptance into the summer program is not a guarantee it will run. All classes need a minimum of 7 out of 12 participants to run. MISSA will let you know if your workshop is an official go once registration opens in January. You can begin to make travel plans after your workshop has been confirmed. From time to time, MISSA will need to cancel a workshop due to low registration. We will let you know at the latest by April 15 if you have not heard from us sooner.

**9. What have other instructors said about teaching at MISSA?**

- *“This was an amazing experience all around. I had an amazing group of students and taught among amazing faculty. It truly was a treat to me among such talent and such beauty while I was there. Thank you for the opportunity.” 2019*
- *“Thank you MISSA family. I was so delighted to be part of the lovely, affirming experience.” 2019*
- *“Thanks for all your hard work - amazing place (environment, beauty, studios, people). amazing staff and volunteers and amazing techs. thanks for making it all work so well...” 2019*

**10. What sets MISSA apart from other art schools?**

MISSA is located on the secluded seaside campus of Pearson College, on 78 acres amongst tall trees and lush greenery. It is a stunning natural environment to host this annual gathering of artists, who travel from near and far to create, collaborate, and explore, as they have been doing for the past 35 years. We call it, MISSA Magic.

**11. What happens next?**

Once your proposal has been accepted, you will be sent a more detailed course description. Once the course description form has been completed, a contract will be sent to you for you to sign. Once the contract has been signed, you are officially on the program to teach at MISSA and you can begin to share the good news with your networks! Once your workshop has met the minimum enrolment of 7 participants, your workshop is officially a go.

**The 2020 Summer Session will launch on-line in mid-January**



We welcome your proposal(s)!

Please send proposals to [ed@missa.ca](mailto:ed@missa.ca)

*We would love to hear from you.*