



**Creating  
Art &  
Community**

## **MISSA 2024 Summer Arts Program: July 12 - 26**

Fourteen days of varied workshops in a retreat-like setting on Vancouver Island!

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

Since 2022, our annual Summer Arts Program has moved from its original location in Metchosin to the beautiful [Shawnigan Lake School](#) campus, in Shawnigan Lake, BC., Canada.

This 100 year old private high school is located on a picturesque 300-acre campus with flowers, ponds, old growth trees and manicured gardens, across the street from Shawnigan Lake. The buildings are connected by walking trails weaving between dormitories, classroom spaces and the dining hall. There is lots to explore outside of class time and lots of hidden places for students to find rest and inspiration.



### **MISSA Instructor FAQs**

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

Workshops are offered in all artistic mediums including, but not limited to: painting, mixed media, ceramics, drawing, printmaking, papermaking, textiles, photography, creative writing, music and more. The campus at Shawnigan offers spaces that have the capacity to offer new workshops in theatre, textiles/sewing, music recording and the culinary arts. 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 that show up each year. MISSA folks are an inspiring group of creative individuals eager to learn. The

ages of participants have ranged from 19 – 85, but our 2023 Summer Program stats showed that 85% of participants were 55 years of age and older and 96% of the participants are women. The artistic backgrounds are diverse and 20% identify as professional artists and 47% identify 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 with a few folks travelling internationally, as far away as Brazil and Japan.

Last summer, **95%** of the instructors said the MISSA students either met or exceeded their expectations!

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

MISSA transforms a high school campus, with regular classrooms, into art studios. A few classrooms are purpose built. If necessary, preventative measures are taken to protect the tables and floors. Water usage can sometimes be limited and may require the use of a hose and temporary outside sink. Specifications about the needs of your studio can be outlined in the formal course description. Start with the idea of an empty classroom and state everything you need to run a successful workshop, down to the last detail.

PLEASE NOTE: The classroom spaces in the Shaw Science building will not be available to MISSA in 2024 because they will be under renovation. MISSA has been given two new buildings, with bright classrooms, to use for workshop spaces. We will be working around carpeted floors and hallways and a water source will be set up outside. Your patience and flexibility are appreciated as we adapt to this new situation.



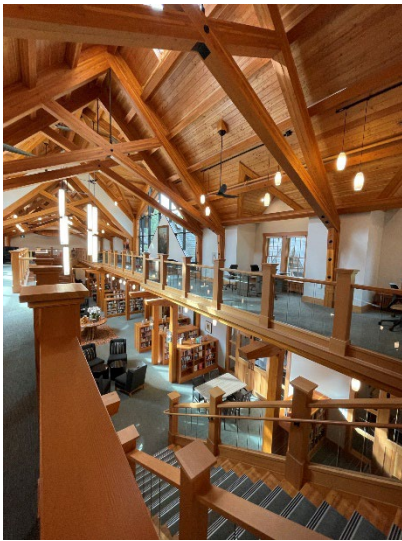
This is the **Hobbies** building where many workshops take place.

This is the only purpose-built art space on campus.

You will appreciate the shade of these tall trees in the heat of summer!

Take a peek at a few of the studio spaces:





**The Shaw Library for writing workshops**



**The main room for textile workshops**



**Theatre entrance: often used for plein air, weaving or improv-type workshops**



**Woodworking shop: used for ceramics including hand building and throwing**

#### 4. What am I expected to do after workshop hours?

- a. Workshops run from 9 – 4 pm daily, (6 hours of teaching with lunch from 12-1). 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. A few students will be commuters and will need to leave shortly after class. Your evenings are your own but there are many activities to enjoy while you are here.
- b. For those teaching a weekend workshop, there is an opportunity during the Open Campus Studio Tour (7 – 9 pm) on Saturday evenings, to meet and greet fellow students, plan a brief demo or show your own work. You are not expected to be in your classroom for the full two hours as this is also an opportunity for you to check out what the other workshops have been up to.
- c. For those of you who are teaching a 5-day workshop, you are asked to do a 10- minute presentation during MISSA Talks (Monday/Tuesday), which are an evening opportunity for students and the public alike to hear from visiting instructors.
- d. Other activities include yoga, massage, lake swimming and forest walks. Stay tuned for program details.

#### 5. What are the accommodations and meals like on campus?

- a. ACCOMMODATION: The campus has a total of 10 student dormitories that can accommodate up to 500 people. MISSA will be using only three of the residences. Most rooms are double occupancy (two single beds) with a shared bathroom between two rooms, commonly called a Jack and Jill bathroom. The shared bathroom has a toilet with a door, a tub and toilet with a door and two sinks.

New last year and continuing again this year, MISSA will be offering instructors their **own bedroom**, but they will have to share a bathroom with another instructor in the adjoining room. Under special request, MISSA does have a few limited single room/single bathroom spaces available.

Shawnigan provides basic bedding (fitted sheet, top sheet, blanket and pillow) along with one bathroom towel and a bathmat. You are encouraged to bring your own toiletries and comfort items, including a beach towel should you choose to go for a swim in the lake.

Each residence has a communal day room including a full kitchen, with fridge, stove, microwave and kettle. You would be welcome to relax in the plush chairs or store your beverages in the fridge.

If you choose to stay off campus, you are responsible for making your own accommodation arrangements, but MISSA will provide your meals while you are on campus. If you are having meals-only, it will need to be pre-arranged with the MISSA office.

- b. **MEALS:** MISSA participants share all meals in the communal dining hall. Lunch along with a beverage service are available to all day students and dinner and breakfast are available to those staying on campus. There will always be a hot meal served with many choices available in a daily salad bar. Please make a note in your course information form if you have any special dietary restrictions including vegetarian, vegan, gluten/celiac or specific allergies. The kitchen tries their best to accommodate requests and you will be asked to introduce yourself to the kitchen so that they can best serve you. The food is varied and delicious and you will not go hungry. However, if you are an evening snack person, you will have to bring along your own snacks.

## 6. What is the compensation package for instructors?

MISSA will pay an instructor honorarium, cover out of town travel expenses, and cover meals and accommodations while on campus. 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. How much will I be paid?

MISSA pays the same honorarium to every instructor (recently updated to \$60/hour). 2024 rates are now **\$720** for a 2-day workshop and **\$1800** for a 5-day workshop. GST will be added if applicable (provide GST#). All money is quoted in Canadian dollars. Once your invoice is submitted, you will be paid within two weeks, post MISSA, unless prior arrangements have been made. MISSA has set-up an e-transfer process to pay instructors and we would require an email address that has been set up for that purpose.

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.

### b. What art supplies will MISSA cover?

Students are responsible for bringing supplies related to your workshop as outlined in your course form. 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 you to do 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 and tools already in stock, please inquire.

**c. What compensation is covered for travel?**

MISSA will cover economy travel as outlined in your course form. Your paid travel will be based on the address that you provided in your course form. Please let the office know if you have moved or intend to move before the start of 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. For those who would like help making travel plans, MISSA has a travel agent we can put you in touch with.

Local instructors are responsible for getting themselves to and from the campus if it is within 100 km return. A travel stipend will be paid for any mileage over 100 km. There is ample parking on campus, but no camper vehicles are allowed.

**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 logistics can be discussed. Sometimes a partnership can benefit everyone!

**8. Other Commonly Asked Questions:**

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

All MISSA participants must be 19 years or older and so children are not able to stay on campus. We are also not able to have partners stay on campus unless they are also taking a class. If they are taking a class, we can make special arrangements for the two of you to share a room. Pets are not allowed.

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

As an instructor, you are welcome to sell your work to your students. It is a very popular opportunity for students to be able to buy a piece of art directly from their instructor.

Please make sure that if you are going to sell anything, that you bring enough. One year, an instructor brought only 5 pieces but had 12 students, and needless to say, it created quite the fervor. Selling your work can be a lucrative opportunity for instructors and MISSA does not take any commission. All sales are the responsibility of the instructor.

**c. Am I required to donate a piece of art?**

It is a request, but it is optional to donate a piece of your artwork to the annual MISSA Grand Silent Auction. The earlier you can donate, the more we can expose your piece on our website and social media outlets leading up to the auction. Some instructors choose to donate a piece of art they make during MISSA. Canadian instructors will receive a tax donation for the appropriate 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!

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

MISSA will be promoting the whole summer program of over 35 workshops. We have a website and social media outlets, including facebook (missamagic) and Instagram (@missamagic). Instructors are asked to do their part promoting their own workshop within their own networks. We are now asking that through your own contacts, instructors bring in a minimum of six students for your workshop (class size is a maximum of 12).

Promotional materials will be made available to you.

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

Unfortunately, acceptance into the summer program is not a guarantee a workshop will run. All classes need a minimum of 8 out of 12 participants to run. MISSA will let you know if your workshop is an official go once registration opens on-line early in the new year. 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 as soon as possible.

Please note that if **no sales** have been made after the launching of the summer program and early sales have been completed and general registration has been happening for a week, the statistical analysis of what we know, is that your workshop will most likely not run. We know it can be early in January and February to make such a decision for a workshop that takes place in July, but this has been our experience with observing registration patterns over the years.

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

*"I enjoyed being at the Shawnigan Lake campus – it is so beautiful...I think the creative synergy of the school is amazing!" 2022*



*“Always fun and very worthwhile teaching at MISSA. MISSA represents a high watermark in summer art events that I have worked at.” 2022*

*“Do it. MISSA is not only about teaching. It is a community experience that is very rich.” 2022*

## **12. What sets MISSA apart from other art schools?**

MISSA is not just about the location, but it helps to have 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 over 37 years. Experience for yourself what we like to call, MISSA Magic.

## **13. What happens next?**

Once your proposal has been accepted, you will be sent a new form asking for more details. 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 in 2024 and you can begin to share the good news with your networks!

**The 2024 Summer Arts Program will launch on-line late January/early February.**

*You are also welcome to submit multiple workshop ideas.*

Please use this link to submit your initial proposal: [TEACH WITH US](#)

## **A Teaser!**



This is Marion Hall on the Shawnigan campus where all MISSA participants will eat breakfast, lunch and dinner together.

This is a real-life Harry Potter-esque space, with the very believable nickname, Hogwarts!

Please note that Shawnigan is a large bustling campus with other summer programs happening alongside MISSA. We will be sharing the dining hall with sport camp participants, day program students and Shawnigan staff.