



Metal & Stone Sculpture Studios Access Program FAQs

Besides offering classes, Pratt Fine Arts Center is also a hub where independent artists, makers, hobbyists and professionals practice their craft in a community environment. Through its Studio Access Program, Pratt offers shared access to fully-equipped studios.

What are the requirements for becoming an Accessed Studio User?

If you have experience with the equipment in the studio you intend to use, these are the steps to become a studio user:

1. Make an Access Appointment (\$25 one-time)
2. Study the Studio User Manual
3. Pass an Access Test (may require separate appointment)
4. Become a Member (\$80 annual)
5. Turn in signed Acknowledgement Form & Waiver
6. Start using the studio!

What do I need to do if I think I have enough outside experience to be an Accessed Studio User?

In most cases, talking to our Studio Coordinators and then formally going through the orientation and skills test is all you need to do. If you have particular questions or concerns, contact the Metal and Stone Sculpture Studio Manager. Lisa Geertsen, 206.535.2364, lgeertsen@pratt.org

What is considered equivalent experience?

Equivalent experience would be recent completion of courses at Pratt Fine Arts Center, and/or previous approved studio access within the past two years, completed courses/experience at a different school or workplace. Plus, the following things, though well beyond what

we ask, also work: a recent BA, BFA, or MFA in Sculpture.

Do I still need both appointments if I have a lot of experience from other places?

Yes—since this is a new studio to you, there is a lot that you need to become familiarized with, in addition to learning about the access program. We invest a lot of time in you at the beginning with the hope that you become a long-term part of the community here. We ask you that likewise consider this an investment in yourself and in your potential studio and community.

Who do I talk to about becoming an accessed studio user?

Call or email the Studio Manager and see if you qualify. From there you will be able to set up the necessary appointments to go through the access process. Lisa Geertsen, Metal and Stone Sculpture Studio Manager, 206.535.2364, lgeertsen@pratt.org

What will I have access to, the entire studio or a small portion of it?

Sometimes you will have the entire studio to yourself, and access to all of the tools and equipment. Other times there may be other artists using the studio as well. You should plan on greeting and making arrangements with others about sharing space, tools, and equipment.

What does the appointment consist of before I can begin using the studio?

There is a lot of information. You will learn about the Access Program, its policies and procedures, and receive a thorough overview of safe usage of the tools and equipment you hope to gain access to. Since you'll be working on your own as a studio artist, you need to know where things are located in the studio and how to leave the studio if you are the last one out. The skills test is your opportunity to show us that you understand the correct and safe usage of common tools and equipment. You will be asked to physically demonstrate your understanding of how to use some tools and major equipment. We need to feel confident that you can work independently and safely, and adhere to Pratt's policies and procedures for studio tools and equipment; some of our policies and procedures may be different from your own practices or those you've learned elsewhere.

What are the days and hours that the studio is available for access?

7 days a week, 8:30 am to 10:00 pm, are set aside for accessed studio artists, with the exception of holidays and classes. But please note that availability is subject to change without notice. Please check the online calendars or call to insure studio availability.

We are closed on these holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor day
- Thanksgiving day
- Christmas – New Year's Day

What tools and equipment are available for me to use in the studio?

Forging Studio

- Three natural gas forges
- Nine anvils of various weights and sizes
- Varying shapes and weights of hammers and a wide array of tongs and hand tools
- Hydraulic Forging Press and Pneumatic Power Hammer (these are special access tools and require separate testing)
- Disc and belt sander combo
- Abrasive chop saw
- Stationary and moveable leg vices

Fabrication Studio

- Pneumatic tools
- Pan break
- Hand roller
- Vertical & horizontal band saws
- drill presses
- Arc, MIG & TIG Welding equipment
- Oxy/Acetylene torches for welding and cutting
- Plate and Beverly shears
- Belt and disc sanders
- Pin Bender
- Abrasive chop saw
- Plasma torches
- Power roller (this is a special access tool)

Sandblaster

- One pressure pot sandblaster with 100g aluminum oxide (this equipment is shared with the glass studio and requires a reserved appointment and separate fee of \$15/30 minutes)

Stone Yard

- Various hand carving chisels and hammers
- Assorted pneumatic tools

Bronze Foundry / Mold Room

- The foundry may only be operated by instructors of Pratt Fine Arts Center and use of our casting facilities requires booking a custom class.

Please contact the Studio Manager for more information

lgeertsen@pratt.org

- Wax pots and microcrystalline wax
- Sink and running water for mixing plaster

What consumables are available for me to use in the studio?

We provide tank gas (welding gas and oxy/acetylene set ups), welding rod and wire, tips and collets and tungsten for welders, natural gas for forges as well as propane for patina work. We also provide access to some small hand tools (pliers, hammers, wrenches, screwdrivers). We do ask that you provide your own angle grinders and abrasives for them. As well as any other specialty power/hand tool you want to use. Accessed studio users do have access to the pneumatic tools, but need to also provide burrs and abrasives. It is always good to have your own set of drill bits as well.

Any tips on sharing studio space with other users?

Be considerate of those around you. Always clean up after yourself. Music on is ok as long as no one objects. Don't be afraid to communicate with the other people in the studio, they can be your best asset, as well as the studio manager and technician. We strive to maintain a friendly community in

the studios so it never hurts to reach out to each other. You may need a hand from that person at some point and they may need you as well. But being respectful of personal space and deadlines is always key.

Please take your cell calls outside of the studio as a courtesy to others. There is often loud equipment running in these studios as well and that may interfere with your call.

We value your involvement with our community here and look forward to nourishing your creativity.

How much does it cost to access?

Each studio can be rented separately.

Metal Fabrication Studio: Daily \$40 Monthly \$235

Blacksmithing Studio: Daily \$30, Monthly \$195

Stone Yard: Daily \$30, Monthly \$195

Mold Room: Daily \$30

Combo Fab & Forge: Daily \$50, Monthly \$335

For more information on Pratt's *Metal and Stone Sculpture Studios*, please contact Lisa Geertsen, Studio Manager 206.535.2364 lgeertsen@pratt.org

For more information on becoming an *Accessed Artist in Pratt's Metal and Stone Sculpture Studios*, please download the *Metal and Stone Sculpture Studio User Guide*.