



Dear Idyllwild Community,

After conducting a very successful and safe Summer Program, we are excited to welcome nearly three hundred students from around the world to the 2021-2022 school year. Academy staff and faculty have been working diligently to return to classrooms and studios and to create a community in which our students will thrive and grow. The students returned to campus this week and the vibe on campus is palpable.

In recent months, we've learned a lot about keeping our students safe while on campus and we were pleased to report that we did not have community spread of the virus during the last school year or over the summer. We will continue safety measures such as physical distancing, wearing masks when inside buildings, frequent handwashing, COVID-19 testing, limiting visitors to campus, and contact tracing when necessary. At this time, we have not made it mandatory for students or employees to be vaccinated. We do, however, strongly encourage those who are able to do so to get vaccinated and we are offering vaccine clinics for students who could not get vaccinated before coming to campus.

The safety of our students remains our highest priority. Due to the current positivity rate of the coronavirus in our region, we are unable to welcome visitors to campus this fall. It is our hope that, as conditions improve in our area, we will be able to welcome the community onto campus for the wonderful performances and exhibits of our students.

Our students have returned to campus with dreams of pursuing their artistic endeavors in a nurturing environment with like-minded peers who are also passionate about the pursuit of artmaking. We look forward to the performances, exhibits, and projects that will develop their skills, stretch their imaginations, and remove self-imposed boundaries. Every new year is filled with possibility and hope and we look forward to the growth and accomplishments of this year's class.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Pamela Jordan".

Pamela Jordan

*President, Idyllwild Arts Foundation*

