



Creative Futures Institute

2025 Student + Family
Handbook



Welcome to ECU!

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Creative Futures Institute at Emily Carr University of Art + Design! We're thrilled that you will be joining us in Vancouver, Canada, for an unforgettable summer of creativity!

At ECU, we prepare youth for the next step in their creative journey. Our Teen Programs in Continuing Studies offer excellent preparation for post-secondary education and future careers. Through hands-on art making under the direction of ECU instructors, students will have access to experienced instruction and ECU's amazing studios, equipment, resources and community.

The Student + Family Handbook lays out all information, policies and procedures for the Creative Futures Institute, and it is the responsibility of all students to be familiar with the Handbook and abide by expectations and responsibilities specified. The information, policies and procedures within the Handbook are designed with the safety and security of ECU and its students in mind, and are intended to promote and foster an inclusive, respectful and open community of learning for all students, instructors and staff. With this in mind, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Warmest regards,



Kelsey Lee
Coordinator, Youth + Community Programs

Continuing Studies
Emily Carr University of Art + Design

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Emily Carr University of Art + Design	4
About the Creative Futures Institute	5
Admissions	5
Tuition + Fees	6
Scholarships	6
Withdrawals + Refunds	6
Materials + Software	7
Program Schedule	8
Instructional Design + Activities	8
Studio Courses	9
Instructional Staff	10
Student Exhibition	10
Program Assessment + Grades	10
Accessibility Services	11
Campus Resources	11
Duty to Report	13
Student Expectations + Responsibilities	14
Attendance	14
Academic Expectations	15
Accommodations + Transportation	16
Campus	16
International Students	17
Health + Wellness	17
OneCard Student ID	19
Cellphones + Electronic Devices	20
Visitors	20
Student Conduct	20
Further Education	21

Emily Carr University of Art + Design

Founded in 1925, Emily Carr University is a world leader in art, media and design.

Merging studio practice, research and critical theory in an interdisciplinary and collaborative environment, ECU encourages experimentation at the intersections of art, design, media and technology. We're ranked as the top university in Canada for art and design, and 29th in the world.¹

With more than 1,800 students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate programs, and thousands more taking workshops, certificate programs and individual courses every year, Emily Carr's faculty, staff and alumni are internationally recognized as award-winning creators and thought leaders whose work consistently advances the resilience and potential of both cultural sectors and the economy.

Emily Carr University of Art + Design is located at 520 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5T 0H2. ECU is situated on the unceded, traditional and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

Continuing Studies

Come learn with us and take the next step in your personal and professional growth.

Be a part of Emily Carr's exciting learning community. Expand your knowledge, develop your creative vision and grow your skill sets. Whatever path you choose, ECU is a place to pursue your creative practice and enhance your career.

¹ QS World University Rankings for 2024, Subject: Art & Design

About the Creative Futures Institute

Creative Futures Institute is an immersive, month-long art and design program that provides students with the next step in their preparation for post-secondary education in art and design, challenging canonical knowledge, conventional ways of thinking and understanding, and conversations about the role of art and design in today's world. Part studio-based and part seminar-style, the Creative Futures Institute blends both creativity and criticality into group activities and discussions with expert instructors and fellow creative peers.

With a focus on futures thinking, creation and innovation, students are invited to embrace experimentation, other ways of knowing and seeing the world, and to share their big questions and ideas about art and design, and its role in responding to and shaping the future. This inaugural launch of the program invites students to participate in one of two courses, developed and carefully curated utilizing the expertise of expert educators, instructors, artists, designers and creative practitioners.

The Creative Futures Institute is scheduled to run from June 30, 2025 to July 25, 2025 and will be hosted on campus for the 2025 calendar year. Upon completion, students will be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

Admissions

The Creative Futures Institute is for students ages 16 to 18yrs, or who have completed Canadian Grade 10 by July 1, 2025.

Registration opens in the Fall prior to the upcoming Summer Teens programs. Seats are limited per studio, so registration is first come, first served. Students, parents, and/or guardians must fill out a registration application form online, which is then reviewed by our Registration team. A member of the Registration team will follow-up to confirm registration and payment of tuition.

There are no pre-requisites or previous learning experiences required to attend the Creative Futures Institute.

Tuition + Fees

All tuition prices and fees are listed in Canadian dollars (CAD).

Summer 2025	Domestic Students	International Students
Early Bird Tuition	\$2,600.00	\$3,000.00
Regular Tuition	\$2,800.00	\$3,200.00

Early Bird pricing is available until February 28, 2025.

Scholarships

ECU Continuing Studies offers tuition scholarships for students of Indigenous ancestry. We offer one scholarship for a student in the Creative Futures Institute program. Students must apply online and submit their application by March 1, 2025. Following the deadline, our selection committee will review applications and select a recipient. The successful applicant will be notified by the end of March.

The scholarship may only be used towards the cost of tuition; it does not apply to costs associated with transportation, accommodation, supplies or meals.

Withdrawals + Refunds

Withdrawal requests must be submitted in writing to the Registration team at csreghelp@ecuad.ca.

Withdrawal requests received prior to February 28, 2025 for a full tuition refund, less a \$35.00 administrative fee.

Withdrawal requests received between March 1 – June 14, 2025 are eligible for a tuition refund, less a \$50.00 administrative fee.

Withdrawal requests received June 15, 2025 onwards are not eligible for a tuition refund.

Materials + Software

Studio courses require various materials and/or software for students to work with to experiment with new ideas and create amazing projects. Specific information about studios can be found on the Course Syllabus.

Materials

Student Material Lists are made available prior to the program start. Materials differ between studios, and we do our best to consider “must-haves” versus “nice-to-haves.” Depending on the course, students can expect materials to cost up to \$180.00. Tuition does not cover the cost of materials.

Software

Information about software required for studios will be made available prior to the program start. For courses that require software as part of their curriculum, students will have access to required software in ECU computer labs.

To provide students with access to software, ECU will need to use personal information. Consent to use students’ personal information must be given in advance; please make sure to review all consent information in the registration application form.

All students will be assigned a locker on the first day of the program. Lockers will come with a lock and key that students must keep on them for the duration of the program. Tuition covers the cost of locker rental. Students will review and sign locker rental agreements on the first day.

Program Schedule

The Creative Futures Institute runs from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday to Friday, June 30, 2025 to July 25, 2025. There will be no courses running on Tuesday, July 1, 2025.

An unsupervised lunch hour is provided each day from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. Students are responsible for bringing their own meals for lunch. During this time, there will be special presentations from ECU Admissions, the Library, alumna and guest artists, which students may sign up for. Participation in all lunch hour activities and presentations is encouraged, but optional. A full calendar of lunch hour events and activities will be released closer to the program start.

ECU has two on campus food services, The Caf (on the 2nd floor) and Tuck Shop (on the 1st floor). In addition, there is a Nemesis Coffee Café outside on the plaza off Great Northern Way (red building).

Instructional Design + Activities

Students will complete a 120-hour studio course that focuses on technical, creative and collaborative skills. Learning activities consist of lectures, interactive demonstrations, group assignments and independent study, as well as hands-on, technical and practical projects, allowing students to explore their creative practice.

Students will have the opportunity to work independently and in groups, be introduced to professional, practicing artists and designers, learn from their peers, and develop their creative skills. Students are encouraged to participate in all activities in the classroom.

Some studios in the Creative Futures Institute may include off-campus activities. The activities are designed as part of the program to enhance the educational experience for students. Some examples include visits to local galleries, professional studios and public art sites. If there are off-campus activities planned for a studio, ECU will provide advance notice and consent forms for parent/guardian review and signature. All off-campus activities will have two adult supervisors.

Studio Courses

Students will choose one of the following studio courses as their concentration for the Creative Futures Institute. Once the program starts, students are not permitted to transfer studios and must stay in the studio they are registered in for the entire duration of the program.

Drawing into the Future

Take the next step in your artistic practice. *Drawing into the Future* introduces students to drawing as a medium to explore creative ideas, encouraging students to think critically, creatively and conceptually, while strengthening their visual and technical skills. Through traditional and experimental drawing activities, students will consider a variety of topics and media that expand and challenge their understanding of drawing and its ability to communicate narrative, thoughts, ideas and creative expression. Part studio and part seminar, course topics are explored through lectures and demonstrations, guided research, group feedback and critique, and individual assignments. Be part of an exciting community of creative inquirers! Encouraging a culture of curiosity and reflection, this course invites students to collaborate with creative peers and expert instructors in examining how drawing shapes and expresses visions for the future. By the end of the course, students will walk away with a variety of projects to include in their portfolio, and documentation methods that best present their work.

Designing for the Future

This engaging and dynamic project-based course is intended for creative youth passionate about learning how to use design to shape the world of tomorrow. In addition to developing a thorough understanding of various design disciplines (such as product, user experience (UX), user interface (UI), and systems design), students will learn how to apply design methods to real-world challenges, including sustainability, accessibility, and technology integration. *Designing for the Future* gives students a preview of a university-level design education by engaging in practical design projects that promote critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and the ability to translate creative ideas into feasible solutions. Design requires collaboration, and this course will teach students how to work well with others to improve their leadership, problem-solving and communication skills. Throughout the course, students will create a portfolio demonstrating their ability to ideate, prototype, and refine projects. Under the guidance of our experienced instructors, students will receive personalized feedback to help them understand their strengths and areas for improvement. The course aims to develop an innovative mindset and the confidence necessary for the next steps in students' educational journey.

Instructional Staff

All courses and studios offered in the Creative Futures Institute are developed by ECU's team of expert educators, designers and creative practitioners, carefully curated to cater to a range of learning styles and interests. Our roster of practicing and professional artists and designers bring fun, engagement and encourage curiosity in the classroom to take students' creativity to the next level. All instructional staff have undergone a criminal records check and are confirmed to have clear records.

A full roster of instructional staff that teach Teens Programming in Continuing Studies can be found online on our website.

Student Exhibition

Students across all Summer Teens programs (Junior Arts Institute, Summer Institute for Teens and Creative Futures Institute) are encouraged to participate in the public Summer Teens Exhibition, taking place in the Michael O'Brian Exhibition Commons at ECU. The Exhibition runs from July 25, 2025 to August 7, 2025, with an opening reception on July 25th, the last day of the Creative Futures Institute. The exhibition features the work of students from all studios across all Summer Teens programs.

Once student work is installed in the exhibition, it will not be deinstalled until after the exhibition ends. Artwork pick-up schedule and details will be communicated to students towards the end of the program. We respectfully decline all requests for early deinstallation and artwork pick-up.

Program Assessment + Grades

Studios in the Creative Futures Institute are graded as Complete (C) or Incomplete (IC). Students are evaluated through the completion of assignments and projects that take place in the classroom, as well as attendance and participation. Instructors and program assistants will provide feedback throughout the program, to support students with their work and encourage experimentation and exploration, and to challenge students to expand their skill set.

Teens who successfully complete the program will receive a Certificate of Completion. To receive the certificate, students must successfully complete the program by demonstrating consistent engagement, attendance and completion of assignments and projects. Grades received during the Creative Futures Institute will appear on official ECU student transcripts.

Accessibility Services

ECU Accessibility Services provides supports to the learning environments of students with speech, hearing, visual, physical, mental health and neurological disabilities, as well as chronic health conditions, acquired brain injury and temporary disabilities.

If students would like to access these services, they must visit the ECU Accessibility Services webpage and download and complete the *Accessibility Request Form*. The form must be submitted via email to Accessibility Services as early as possible before the program start date. Once documentation is received and reviewed, a Student Resource Coordinator will follow up to set-up an appointment.

If students would like more information about support in the classroom, please contact Accessibility Services at accessibility@ecuad.ca or 604-844-3081 for information about learning supports and accommodations.

Students and their families are also welcome to complete the *Medical + Exceptionalities Information Form* for the program, indicating whether the student has allergies, medication, or physical and behaviour exceptionalities that program staff need to be aware of, in order to support the student's participation and learning experience. Completing and submitting this form is optional.

Campus Resources

ECU offers many campus resources to Summer Teens students that support the level of excellence, quality of education and peer engagement found in the Summer Institute for Teens.

Campus Resources	Summer Teens Students
Designated Classroom Spaces	Yes
ECU Email Address	Yes
Moodle Course Website	Yes
OneCard Student ID	Yes

Library + Archive	Yes
Instructor Support	Yes
Administrative Support	Yes
Public Lectures + Events	Yes
On Campus Social Spaces	Yes
On Campus Food Services	Yes
Counselling Services	No
Student Union	No

Students in the Summer Institute for Teens have access to ECU’s Library as Community Borrowers; all that is needed is their OneCard or piece of ID. Students are encouraged to use the library before and after class, and during the lunch hour; the library is a place to hang out and make new friends, make noise, laugh, play a game, make art, use a hammock chair and read.

Borrowing from the Library

Students will have a library account from the first day of the program up to the end of ECU’s Summer Semester. ECU is a fine-free environment, but we do charge the replacement cost for lost items. Students are welcome to borrow books, exhibition catalogues and graphic novels for 3 weeks at a time. Games, embroidery kits and other items from the *Creative Tools and Wellness Collection* can be borrowed for 7 days. All Community Borrowers have a limit of 25 items checked out at any given time. Library staff are there to assist students with using the library and finding items, and research help is available on demand during library hours.

Printing in the Library

ECU’s Library has computers, scanners and printers that students are welcome to use during the Summer Institute for Teens. Please note that payment will be needed to use these services. Students simply present their OneCard to library staff, who can assist in collecting and adding money to student accounts and showing students how to use the self-serve stations. ECU does not offer free printing services anywhere on campus.

Duty to Report

All members of the public in the province of British Columbia, including Emily Carr University of Art + Design and its staff and employees, are subject to provincial laws regarding the reporting of child abuse and neglect. Please visit the B.C. provincial government's website on *Protecting Children* for more information.

All students in the Creative Futures Institute are classified as youth under the *B.C. Age of Majority Act*. The *B.C. Child, Family and Community Services Act* requires that anyone who has reason to believe that a child or youth has been or likely to be abused or neglected, and whose parent/guardian is unwilling or unable to protect the child or youth, must report the suspected abuse or neglect to the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.

A report must be made if any child or youth:

- Has been, or is likely to be, physically harmed, sexually abused or sexually exploited by a parent or another person and the parent is unwilling or unable to protect the youth;
- Has been, or is likely to be, physically harmed because of neglect by the youth's parent;
- Is emotionally harmed by the parent's conduct;
- Is or has been absent from home in circumstances that endanger the youth's safety or wellbeing;
- Has been abandoned and adequate provisions have not been made for the youth's care;
- Is living in a situation where there is domestic violence by or towards a person with whom the youth resides;
- Is likely to have seriously impaired development by a treatable condition and the youth's parent/guardian refuses to provide consent to treatment;
- Has a parent that is unable or unwilling to care for the youth and has not made adequate provisions for the youth's care; or,
- Has a parent that is no longer alive and adequate provisions have not been made for the youth's care.

Student Expectations + Responsibilities

Attendance

Students are required to attend for the entire duration of the program. Students are expected to participate in scheduled class activities and discussions. All students are required to attend the Welcome Assembly on the first day of the program.

Attendance is taken twice daily at the beginning of each class and after lunch. Students that are absent when attendance is taken will activate the *Missing Student Protocol*, unless previously notified and approved by program staff.

Any exceptions to student attendance, such as arriving late, leaving early, or planned absences must be communicated to program staff as early as possible. Unexplained, routine attendance exceptions may prevent students from officially completing the program and receiving their Certificate of Completion.

Missing Student Protocol

The threshold of student absences and lateness is 15 minutes after attendance is taken. If students are absent from class 15 minutes after the start of class and after attendance is taken, the student is reported as missing. All missing student incidents are reported by instructors and program assistants to program staff immediately. When a student is reported missing at any time for the duration of the program, the following procedures will be implemented by the program staff that has received the missing student report:

- The program staff will call the student and parent/guardian phone numbers on file;
- The program staff will notify Campus Security of the missing student;
- The program staff and all available Continuing Studies staff will check bathrooms, hallways, stairwells, elevators, classrooms, conference rooms, and outside campus grounds;

- The program staff will contact the student's parent/guardian a second time to inform them of the situation;
- In the event the student has gone missing while attending a field trip, program staff will notify location staff of the field trip for assistance, and travel to the location of the field trip to assist with finding the student;
- If the student cannot be found after taking all appropriate steps and measures, program staff will call 911.

All attendance exceptions must be communicated to program staff at teens@ecuad.ca or 604-844-3879.

Academic Expectations

Emily Carr University of Art + Design values academic integrity at all levels:

- Integrity of the learning process;
- Integrity of academic research in our courses and programs; and,
- Integrity of creative production and expression, both material and textual, in our courses and programs.

At ECU, academic integrity means acknowledging the influence and contributions of others in coursework according to the conventions outlined in each course or program. It means honestly representing the relationship between the work we create for courses and programs and the work of those who have influenced or participated in its making.

Students are responsible for upholding the principles of academic integrity during their participation in the Summer Institute for Teens. If expectations arising during a course are unclear, students must ask questions or seek additional information from instructors and program assistants.

For more information, please refer to *4.17 Academic Integrity Policy* of the University Policies.

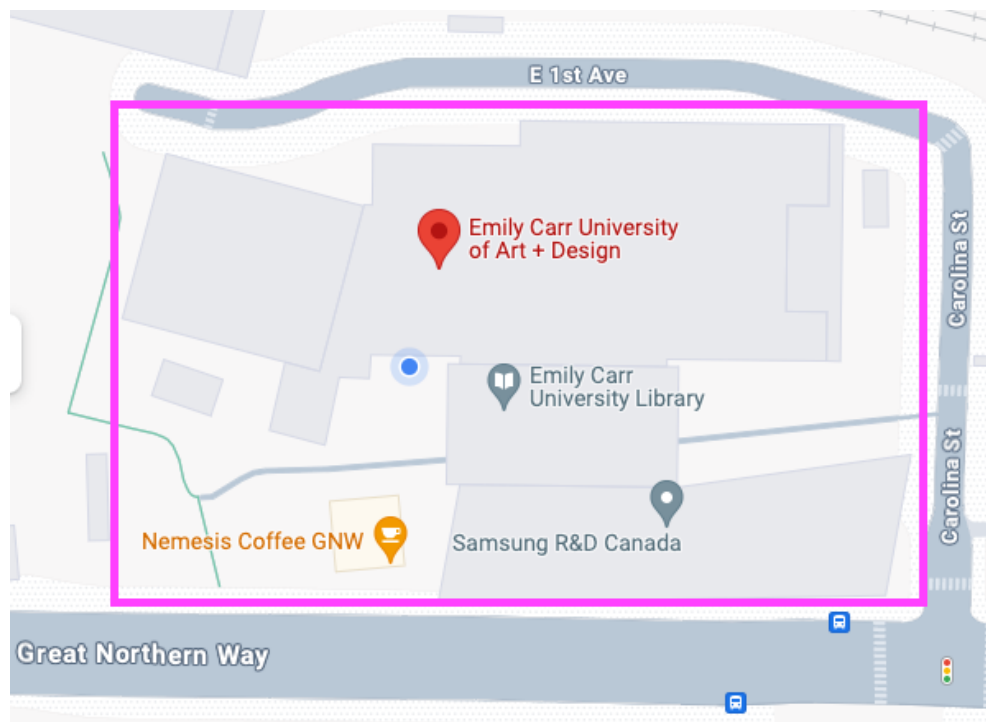
Accommodations + Transportation

ECU does not provide on campus or off campus housing accommodations. Students are responsible for finding their own, appropriate housing. If students are joining us from outside of Vancouver, they may choose to stay with a family member or friend, or find temporary housing with a parent/guardian for the duration of the program. For more information on local housing options, neighbourhoods and homestay resources, visit ECU's *Off Campus Housing* webpage.

Students are responsible for transportation costs to and from campus, as well as to any offsite activities that require public transit.

Campus

Emily Carr University of Art + Design is located at 520 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5T 0H2 in Canada. The campus is composed of one building and two plazas. The campus boundaries are noted in the below map, in pink.



We encourage students to stay on campus for the duration of the lunch hour, though recognize that lunch options are limited for those that are not bringing lunch. It is recommended for students to stay in the general neighbourhood and come back to campus in time for the afternoon part of their courses.

International Students

The Creative Futures Institute accepts enrolment and registration from students regardless of their citizenship or immigration status. ECU does not provide student visas or information about how to obtain visas for travel to Canada. We encourage international students to contact their country's embassy/government office for this information. ECU can provide letters confirming enrolment in the Creative Futures Institute, upon request.

If students are travelling unaccompanied to Vancouver, please be advised that students under the age of 18 must have a pre-arranged, appointed custodian/guardian who will be responsible for them during their stay, in order to enter Canada. Please visit the Government of Canada's *Minor Children Travelling to Canada* webpage for more information.

The primary language of instruction is English. Language proficiency is not considered in a student's application for the Creative Futures Institute; however, it is necessary for students to be proficient in written and spoken English in order to participate in group discussions, presentations, and following emergency and safety protocols. As a guideline, we would expect students to have proficiency that is equivalent to an IELTS score of 4.6 to 6.0.

Health + Wellness

The Creative Futures Institute is an immersive, fast-paced program in which students are responsible for maintaining and managing their personal health. It is highly encouraged that students and their families discuss and prepare for the potential challenges of attending the program and if applicable, being in an unfamiliar environment far from home. This preparation should include arranging for any mental health support needed prior to the start of the program. ECU does not provide counseling services to students attending the Creative Futures Institute, but is prepared to handle emergency situations.

If a student inflicts or threatens harm (either towards themselves or others), program staff may send the student home at the expense of parents/guardians.

Statement on Wellness + Safety

Emily Carr University of Art + Design is committed to supporting students with their education and ensuring that all who participate in our program contribute to a safe and healthy environment. All program staff, instructors and program assistants are required to participate in a series of pre-service training addressing adult principles for interacting with youth students, emergency protocols and procedures, field trip protocols and procedures, and recognizing the duty to report.

Campus Security are the university's certified first aid attendants, located on the 2nd floor of campus, behind Reception.

Health Insurance

ECU requires all students to have valid medical insurance while in Canada.

Illness and Routine Illness

ECU encourages students to stay home if they are unwell or feeling sick. Students are expected to communicate their absence via email to program staff at teens@ecuad.ca and their expected return date. In the case of a student experiencing a routine illness, program staff will contact parents/guardians for consultation of appropriate care, including the option of accompanying students to urgent care or hospital facility, and remaining in contact until the issue is resolved.

For more information, please refer to University policy *4.13 Aftercare Policy for Students Following Hospital Treatment*.

Medical + Exceptionalities Information Form *Optional*

Students and families are welcome to complete and submit the optional *Medical + Exceptionalities Information Form* for the program, indicating student allergies, medications, physical or behaviour exceptionalities that program staff need to be aware of, in order to support the student with full participation and engagement in the program. Completing this form is optional, and all information provided on this form is destroyed upon the program's end.

Self-Administration of Medication

Parents/Guardians and students are responsible for any issues that may arise as a consequence of students self-administering their medications. Students must ensure that their medications are secure and not made available to any other student.

Medical Requiring Refrigeration

Students bringing medication that requires refrigeration should indicate this on the *Medical + Exceptionalities Information Form*. Program staff will have a small fridge available in the program office for student medications to be stored. ECU cannot be responsible for any student medication beyond refrigeration storage.

COVID-19

Students and families should familiarize themselves with ECU's COVID-19 information and protocols prior to the program start, including guidelines for masking and self-isolation.

OneCard Student ID

For all on campus studios and courses, students will be required to have an ECU OneCard student ID. OneCards provide students with access to campus facilities and library resources, as determined by the program level issued on the ID. Please review the *Campus Resources* section of this handbook to learn more about what access students will have on their OneCard.

Students will need to upload a headshot photo of themselves for their OneCard prior to the program start. To do this, students will need to go to the OneCard ID photo upload webpage listed on their program welcome letter and follow further instructions. OneCards will be made available for pick-up upon student check-in (on the first day of the program).

For returning students, OneCard IDs will be automatically reactivated. If previous students have lost their OneCard, they may submit a request for reprint at csonecard@ecuad.ca. Students will not be able to upload a new photo to the photo upload webpage. Any reprints of new OneCards will automatically deactivate old OneCards.

Personal Property

ECU is not responsible for any personal property that is lost, damaged, or stolen during the program. We highly encourage that students leave their valuables at home.

Cellphones + Electronic Devices

Students are permitted to bring and use cell phones, laptops, tablets and other electronic devices, as long as they do not disrupt others. Where a course requires the use of software, students will have access to computer labs and electronic equipment, and are not required to bring these items with them.

Students are not permitted to utilize their personal devices during class time or at any time that requires their attention to be directed towards course activities and presentations. Instructors may request students to keep their personal devices turned off or out of sight in the classroom or during designated activities. Students are not permitted to record, tape, film or photograph in campus washrooms, or individuals that have not consented to having their image taken. Use of electronic devices for bullying, harassment, discrimination and academic dishonesty is prohibited.

Visitors

ECU does not permit recreational visits or visitors in its programs. All guest artists and visitors are required to report to program staff in the program office. Visitation permissions are granted at the sole approval and discretion of program staff. After signing in, guest artists and visitors will be given a Visitor Badge to wear during their visit. All guest artists and visitors must sign out with program staff upon departure.

If parents/guardians need to drop off items to their student throughout the duration of the program, they must do so at the program office. Visitors in a non-supervisory capacity are not to speak to any student, except where the student is their own child, when it comes to any issue of concern.

Student Conduct

All students agree to abide by ECU's Student Conduct. For more information, please see University policy *4.6 Student Conduct*.

Further Education

Many students enrolled in the Summer Teens programs return to ECU to attend additional programs, courses and workshops for teens. Continuing Studies offers individual courses and workshops to complement student learning and skill development, as students explore different creative practices.

Some of our most popular courses for teen students are *Portfolio Development for Teens* and *Portfolio Review for Teens*. Both courses align with ECU Admissions Guidelines. *Portfolio Development for Teens* is for those students looking to start building a portfolio of work through creative prompts and activities provided by instructors, while *Portfolio Review for Teens* is for students seeking additional help and support in making sure their portfolio best reflects their creative identity and intention for attending post-secondary institutions. Some of our program alumni find themselves attending ECU full-time as a degree student, pursuing their dreams of becoming innovative artists and designers.

**More information regarding our courses and workshops for teens
can be found at ecuad.ca/teens**

**Any questions regarding our program offerings for teens
can be directed to teens@ecuad.ca**