



## Accessibility and additional learning needs – Common supports

We want to create a more welcoming, safe and accessible environment for students at Arts Umbrella. We are continuing to expand what we offer around accessibility in our space and classes and humbly recognize that we will have many areas in which to make progress. Please contact us with questions or suggestions using the contact information below.

**Note: You do not need to have a formal diagnosis or doctor’s note to ask for supports.**

### Common supports in our space

Learning support	Details
<b>A tour of the building and/or classroom</b>	Time to look at our space, including classrooms/studios where your student might have class.
<b>Information about building access</b>	We can provide details, including photos or measurements of accessibility features that are important to your student e.g. accessible washrooms, studio desk heights, amount of light
<b>Quiet room</b>	Available lower sensory space for students on the 1 <sup>st</sup> floor in Student Services to take a break during class
<b>Accessible building features</b>	Our building has some accessibility features e.g. washrooms, elevator, automatic doors, etc.

### Common supports for our classes

#### General supports

Learning support	Details
<b>Communicating clear instructions and knowing what to expect</b>	Our instructors and assistants can give more direction, go over instructions, or share a brief plan for the coming classes so students know what to expect in advance
<b>Rest breaks</b>	Time given for students who might need a break to rest between tasks, activities or when things get overwhelming
<b>Support person or aide</b>	A personal aide, support person, or parent is welcome to join their student in class to offer access support or personal care
<b>Opportunity to meet instructor</b>	Students and/or their families can meet with instructor to discuss needs and possible adaptations



## **Art & Design classes**

Including: Visual Arts, Media Arts, and Animation

<b>Learning support</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Alternative formats for reference images and videos</b>	Providing captions or transcripts on animation or video; image descriptions of reference images
<b>Sharing media in advance</b>	Our instructors can share media in advance of the class to allow more time to view or process information

## **Dance classes**

Including: General Program, Professional Program, and Creative Dance

<b>Learning support</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Instructors using provided access tools or assistive devices</b>	Instructors use student-provided access tools such as FM loops for deaf/hard of hearing students
<b>Rest breaks</b>	Time given for students who might need a break to rest in order to stretch, check insulin levels, etc.
<b>Adapted movement</b>	Adapt movement or choreography to accommodate injuries or mobility limitations

## **Theatre, Music & Film classes**

Including: Theatre, Musical Theatre, Early Learning, Private Voice Lessons, Intensives, Troupes

<b>Learning support</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Alternative formats for scripts/sheet music</b>	Students are offered audio recordings of scripts or music to learn
<b>Flexibility in class participation</b>	Having a scribe available to take notes in class; an audio recorder for students who aren't able to read aloud in class
<b>Wheelchair-accessible stage</b>	Our theatre has a ramp backstage to allow performers with mobility devices to access the stage area
<b>Protection/warning for flashing or strobing lights or loud noise</b>	Students with epilepsy, migraines or sensory sensitivity are given warning of flashing lights or loud noise to help avoid triggers

---

**Main contact:** Rae Finlay, Student Services Assistant  
Email: [rfinlay@artsumbrella.com](mailto:rfinlay@artsumbrella.com)

**Additional contact:** Student Services  
Email: [info@artsumbrella.com](mailto:info@artsumbrella.com)  
Phone: 604 681 5268

Current students can also reach out to the Art & Design; Dance; or Theatre, Music & Film department.