

During the Art Crawl, you want your studio to be **INVITING AND SAFE**

Here are some things to consider. If you are new to the event, we encourage you to reach out to artists who have participated before. They are bound to have useful tips for you as well.

SAFETY

APPROACHING YOUR STUDIO

Be inviting. Many people are coming to areas they are not familiar with, and they maybe a bit apprehensive or uncertain.

- Clearly indicate your studio with supplied Art Crawl signage.
- Light the way: make sure the approach is well-lit, paying particular attention to steps or low-hanging obstructions. Use LED tube lighting or Christmas lights for playful but effective lighting.
- Remove or pad any sharp or projecting overhangs, thinking of both very tall and very small people who may be visiting.
- Ensure safe footing. Put down grit or a non-slip surface if the way is potentially slippery in rain or icy conditions. Remove or secure any loose rugs, boards etc.
- Post signage at every turn along the approach so people can easily find you. A 'Welcome' sign on your door, particularly if you are in a private home, will make people feel comfortable entering even if you are busy with other visitors and can't come to the door.
- Any other tricky spots? Tape door/gate latches open with tape. Post friendly notes with tips "pull this cord..." Consider having volunteers in the lobby or entry to welcome and direct visitors.

INSIDE YOUR STUDIO

- Make room. Consider removing or relocating materials stacked along the walls to give people room to maneuver.
 - Make your visitors feel welcome. Consider wearing a name tag so visitors know you are the artist. If you have multiple artists in the studio, it lets them know who to approach about a particular work. Consider hanging some artwork low for children to enjoy, or even having something they can touch or interact with. post a sign so parents and kids know it's okay to touch.
 - Remove safety hazards.
 - Tape or remove cords or loose rugs.
 - Remove or secure any piled stacks of materials that could topple if bumped.
 - Remove any sharp nails/hooks that could catch someone's body or clothing.
 - Do a walk-through as if you were visiting your studio for the first time.
 - Do it imagining you are very tall, and again as if you were very small.
 - Keep private areas off limits. Clearly mark any areas you want to keep private, and consider using a latch or other simple device to dissuade the curious. People are very curious about how artists live and will open drawers, pick up ornaments, etc. without asking. Cover storage areas or private areas with sheets, folding screens, or similar devices. Have a safe secure space to store your wallet/purse.
 - If you have washroom facilities that you plan to allow visitors to use, consider removing any articles that are not essential. If you don't want visitors to use the washroom facilities, post a 'private' sign and keep the door closed.
 - Artwork: consider placing small pieces of artwork deep within your studio rather than near the door. Most people are honest, but occasionally theft does occur.
 - If you are in a private home or isolated studio, consider having a friend keep you company and have a cell phone with you.
 - If you must have your pet in the studio with you, please keep them well under control. Not everyone feels comfortable around animals, especially ones that jump up or want to give 'kisses'.
-

INSURANCE

The Coast Cultural Alliance recommends that each artist have liability insurance for their studio. The CCA does not provide insurance for artists. If you have insurance on your studio, we advise you to contact your insurer or insurance broker to let them know about the event and ensure you have coverage.