December 16, 2021

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Students,

Thanks to all of our collective efforts after returning to on-campus activities this Fall, LCAD has largely navigated the COVID-19 pandemic with minimal disruption. This is in large part due to our mandatory vaccination policy, which has served the LCAD community well in terms of the health and safety of all who are on campus.

As the Omicron variant spreads, however, it is prudent to redouble our protective measures, especially in light of studies showing that the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines is reduced after a certain number of months. Scientific evidence has shown that booster shots offer additional protection. For this reason, the College has reached a decision regarding vaccine booster shots. For the health and safety of the entire community, LCAD will require all students, faculty and staff (excluding those with approved exemptions) who are eligible to receive a COVID-19 booster vaccination prior to the start of the Spring session (which begins on January 24, 2022) or as soon as they become eligible. More details will be sent out shortly, but below is a summary:

• Exemptions already granted will be honored.

• A mandatory attestation form regarding your booster status will be sent out and must be completed no later than January 14, 2022.

• Anyone who is not fully vaccinated (including a booster shot) and has not received an exemption by January 14, 2022, shall not be permitted on campus to attend classes, work, or for any other reason.

• In addition to the three U.S. approved vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and J&J/Janssen), vaccines approved by the World Health Organization will be accepted. Students who are coming from outside the U.S. are strongly encouraged to get a vaccine approved for use in the U.S. if possible.

We continue to believe the most important thing we can do to protect ourselves, our families, and our community from this virus is to get the COVID-19 vaccine – and now the booster shot. Booster shots are widely available for free at pharmacies, hospitals and clinics. For information on where to get a vaccine booster, go to: <u>https://www.vaccines.gov/search/</u>

Our highest priority is your health and safety. It is our goal that by mandating booster shots, we will continue to be able to better protect our LCAD community. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the COVID-19 Coordinator at covid<u>@lcad.edu</u>.

Thank you for your cooperation, and I wish all of you a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely, Steve

## **STEVEN BRITTAN**

PRESIDENT AND CEO my pronouns are: he/him/his

## LAGUNA COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN

2222 LAGUNA CANYON ROAD LAGUNA BEACH, CA 92651 T: (949) 376-6000 ext. 226

FACEBOOK | INSTAGRAM | TWITTER | YOUTUBE