For nearly 80 years, The Student Workshops at Dartmouth have been a place for students to make hands-on projects in wood, metal, and clay. The isolation of a pandemic has made us realize that making things with our hands is more important than ever for our mental health. So, while our studios were closed, we’ve launched several remote programs, such as Make it at Home, guest artist presentations, and coffee hours for students near and far to keep learning and stay inspired!

Huge thanks to our donors

The pandemic has had a significant financial impact on the Hop and Dartmouth. We are fortunate and thankful for the generosity of our Friends.

We continue to learn how to help students develop their skills wherever they are. Please give today to help us support students now and in the future.

Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth
Ceramics

Valuing Natural Resources

Just before the pandemic, we welcomed two Native American artists whose work is featured in the Hood Museum of Art. Courtney M. Leonard, who researches water rights, led students through a hands-on clay workshop tapping into participants’ water memories. Ruben Olguin taught adobe brick-making for Architecture 1 students and others. Both artists opened up a dialogue about sustainability, connectivity to landscape and natural resources.

Top: Ruben Olguin’s adobe brick-making workshop; Bottom: Courtney Leonard installation at the Hood Museum of Art

Jewelry

Coffee Hours: Our Virtual Clubhouse

Jewelry Studio director Jeff Georgantes says he loves the clubhouse feel; the moment you walk through the door, you’re part of the club. To keep that energy alive during the pandemic, the Studio began hosting Coffee Hours: free-form, hour-long chats over Zoom, featuring a theme or a guest artist. Guests included Tanya Crane, Margaret Jacobs ’08, Paulette Werger, and Cinnamon Kills First ’09, MALS ’13!

Work by Tanya Crane, visiting jewelry artist and metalsmith

Ceramics

Finding A Creative Voice

“As a graduated student, the Ceramics studio is one of the places I miss most at Dartmouth. The Ceramics Studio gave me the opportunity to express myself creatively and create tangible objects with my hands. I came to Dartmouth with no experience in ceramics and am grateful for the support and resources provided by the studio, including the introductory classes, visiting artists and workshops.”  

Emma Esterman at work in the studio

Emma Esterman, 2020 Valedictorian speaker
Academic Collaboration

As in a normal year, the Workshops have assisted many academic classes. Given the circumstances, we have provided demonstrations and techniques online via Zoom, provided materials for students to work with and helped the students move through the design process. We have also fabricated the students’ parts and designs which are then mailed to them for assembly. We’re all learning new methods we never dreamed of and these new methods get us to create in exciting new ways.

“The Student Workshops have been an amazing resource during this extraordinary time allowing me to access equipment to help the students with their work.”
Professor Karol Kawiaka on Digital Fabrication class

Your gifts help make our “Make It At Home” program possible this year.

Without your support, we would not be able to offer students these special classes, and we know that they really appreciate staying connected to the workshops.

Thank you.

Woodworking

Real Woodworking

With our new “Make it at Home” program, we mail students a package of tools and materials and then guide them through the project together on Zoom. The students have responded positively about having a literal hands-on experience when so much is through a virtual format these days. With the tools and materials being more limited, it calls upon makers to be more creative than ever.

By David Yin ’22, from the fall Chip and Letter Carving class

Jewelry

Making for Mental Health

“I have always used art as a form of relaxation and a way to check in with myself. Even if I was making something completely unrelated to my current situation, just being able to sit and focus on creating something... has gotten me through difficult periods of my life. Nowadays, especially with the pandemic going on, I have been making a lot more art and exploring a lot of new mediums.” A member of the Class of ’21
Hopkins Center Fellows Program

The Hopkins Center Fellows Program invites Dartmouth students to explore the field of arts administration by working under the mentorship of professional staff. Katie McCabe ’21 is our Jewelry Studio Fellow. Originally from Portland, ME, Katie majors in Linguistics and Environmental Studies and also makes earrings out of guitar picks! Liza Gallandt ’22, Ceramics Studio Fellow, is a Government and Philosophy Major from Orono, Maine. Pictured is a ceramic Darbuka (a traditional Egyptian goblet drum) which she made as part of her research for MES10.10 “Soundscapes of the Middle East.”

Please make a gift today
dartgo.org/givetoworkshops

207 students attended
32 virtual Make It At Home classes

A special thanks to these donors whose endowment funds provide support in perpetuity:

- Charles Wyman Drake ’90 Memorial Fund for the Jewelry Student Workshop
- William Hale Ham 1897 Memorial Fund
- Nathan W. 1932 and Kathleen P. Pearson Fund
- Robert H. Manegold 1975 Fund
- Stuart L. Bell 1980 Hopkins Center Student Workshop Fund
- Tucker Family Fund for Student Workshops
- Virginia Rice Kelsey Family Fund in support of the Hopkins Center – Student Workshops

We would also like to thank the many donors who contribute annually as Friends of the Student Workshops. Without their support the Make It At Home series would not have been possible.