



# ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE 2021

# WELCOME TO THE STEEL YARD!

We are an accessible industrial-arts center and educational facility in Providence, RI. We teach and practice the arts of blacksmithing, welding, ceramics, jewelry and the foundry arts, and host community events.

Our goal is to provide you with the highest quality educational, cultural and professional programs, and are intent on creating a facility that can support local needs.

We encourage community members to give us feedback about facilities, equipment and programs, as part of our commitment to all of our studios being accessible.

**Please reference this guide for information about our accommodations and contact us if you have any further questions about participating in activities.**

**[contact@thesteelyard.org](mailto:contact@thesteelyard.org) • 401-273-7101**

# OUR MISSION

The Steel Yard's historic campus is a platform for professional artists, makers and the community to practice and learn the industrial arts. The organization fosters creative and economic opportunities, by providing workspace, tools, training and education, while forging lasting links to a local tradition of craftsmanship.

# WE BELIEVE

Everyone deserves access to the education, skills and equipment needed to directly improve their conditions and community regardless of their race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sex, age or previous experience.



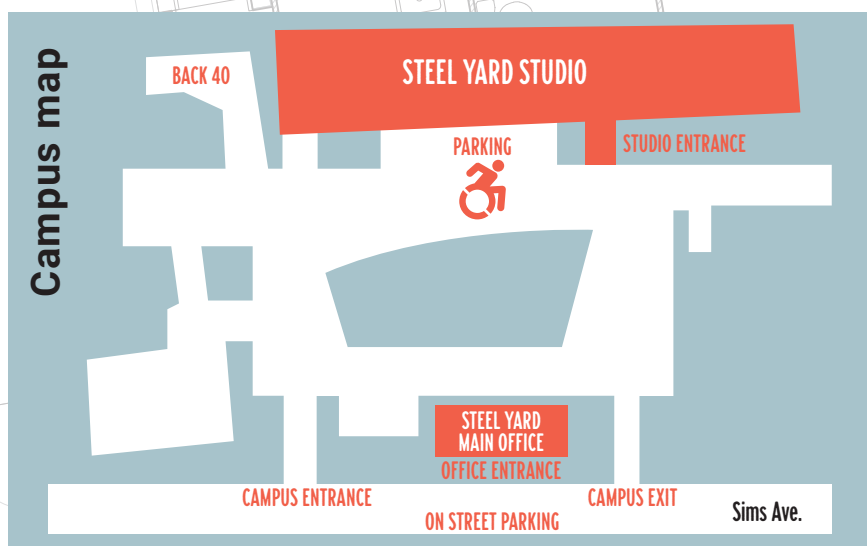
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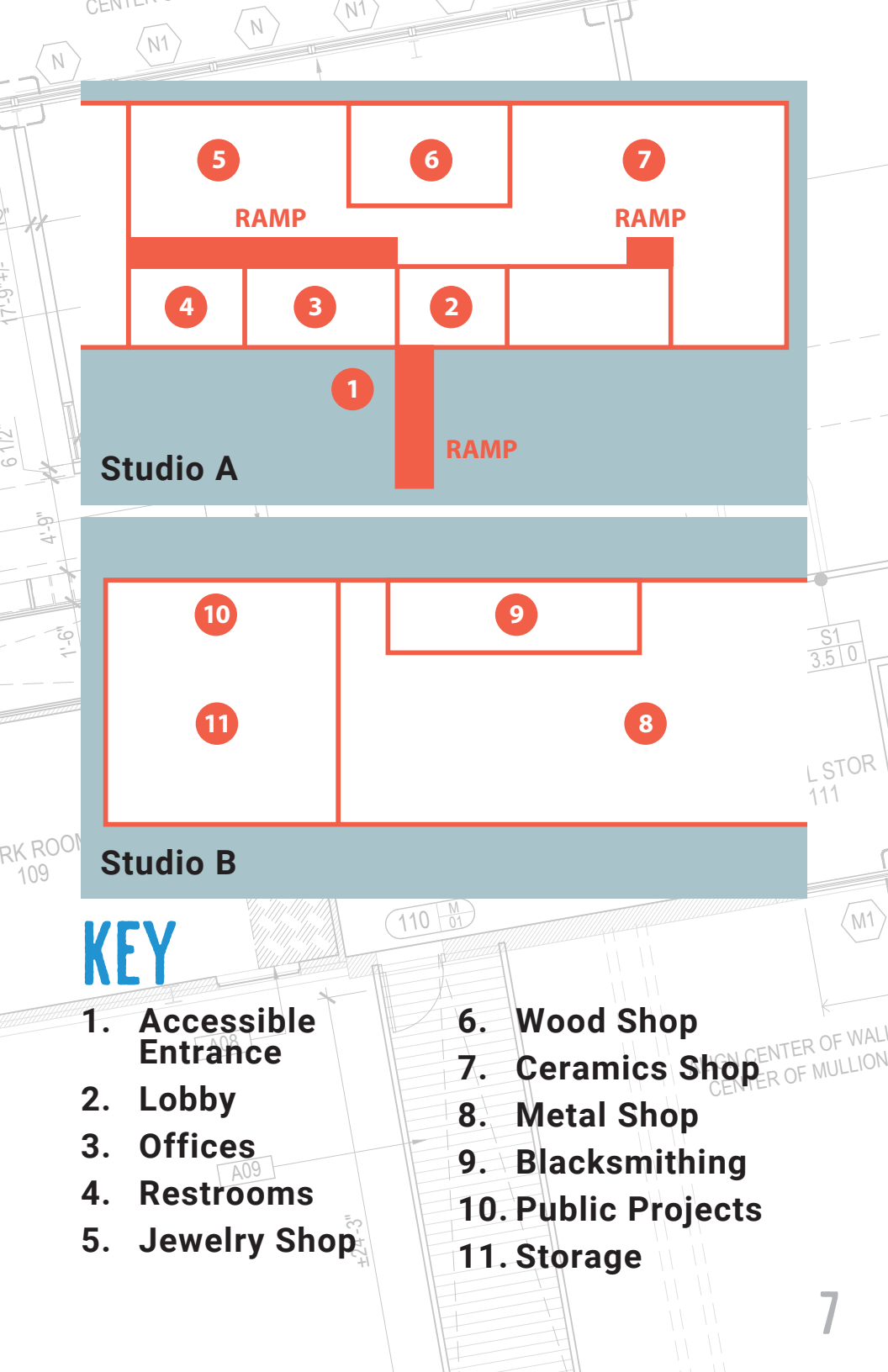
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Photo credit: Phoebe Neel

# GETTING AROUND





**Studio A**

**Studio B**

## KEY

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Accessible Entrance | 6. Wood Shop        |
| 2. Lobby               | 7. Ceramics Shop    |
| 3. Offices             | 8. Metal Shop       |
| 4. Restrooms           | 9. Blacksmithing    |
| 5. Jewelry Shop        | 10. Public Projects |
|                        | 11. Storage         |





## PARKING

There are reserved accessible parking spaces available on campus, in front of the studio building, as well as plentiful street parking surrounding the office building on 27 Sims Avenue.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Get off at the RIPTA bus stop on Atwells Avenue before Harris Avenue. Take Harris Ave one block and then turn on left onto Sims Avenue. The Steel Yard's main barrier free entrance is located on Sims Ave.



Contact RIPTA for schedule information call 401-781-9400 or for customer service use 401-784-9500, ext. 2012, or [ripta.com](http://ripta.com)

## RESTROOMS

There are two accessible all-gender single-occupancy restrooms available in the studio building. Both restrooms are equipped with grab bars. See *page Page 7, item 4 for location.*

## STUDIO/PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

We are continually making efforts to position all equipment to allow wheelchair access through the studio. However, there are areas in the building that are not fully accessible for every kind of disability. For program participants who are hard of hearing there are wireless voice amplifiers available for instructors.

**CERAMIC WHEEL:** Adjustable height with moveable metal frame for knee clearance. Wheel can accommodate most chairs or it



can be used while standing, The foot pedal can be adjusted and operated by a lever.

**JEWELRY WORK BENCH:** Jewelry bench designed with enough knee clearance underneath that can accommodate most chairs allowing the user to be close and at eye level to the work area.

**WELDING BAYS AND TABLES:** Large welding bays available with adjustable curtained walls and welding tables of varying heights no less than 28" and no more than 34" above the floor. Each bay is equipped with hooks for flame retardant blankets. There are also custom plasma and torch cutting tables designed with enough knee clearance underneath that can accommodate most chairs.

**BLACKSMITHING:** Adjustable height anvils.

## OUTDOOR CAMPUS EVENTS

The Steel Yard hosts a variety of community building events throughout the year. All of our events are 100% wheelchair accessible. Event attendees have access to both a fully ADA accessible portable restroom as well as custom wheelchair-accessible picnic tables.

# SERVICE ANIMALS

Officially licensed service animals are welcome in all indoor/outdoor programs. Studio and events can be suddenly loud so the special training a service animal receives is integral to the safety of the animal and our visitors.

# TOURS & SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Your experience at The Steel Yard is important to us. Advance notice may be necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs. If you have a disability and require special accommodations for any of our programs please contact us to discuss your needs.

We encourage everyone to schedule a tour before participating in our programs. To schedule a tour and learn more about accessibility at The Steel Yard please contact our main office at 401-273-7101 or email [contact@thesteelyard.org](mailto:contact@thesteelyard.org)





# SPECIAL THANKS



**THE CHAMPLIN FOUNDATION**  
Champlin Foundation



RISCA



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Tina G Pedersen  
RAMP, President/CEO/Founder

“With the help of people with disabilities, family members, and allies, RAMP works toward educating and advocating inclusion for all in schools, businesses, and the community at large. Positively opening eyes and pointing out the barriers is truly changing the world, one person at a time. [rampisinclusion.com](http://rampisinclusion.com)”





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