

SAFETY TIPS

While victim-blaming is never appropriate and ArtCenter fully recognizes that only those who commit sexual misconduct are responsible for their actions, the following suggestions are provided to help you reduce your risk of being victimized or being accused of sexual misconduct.

• INCREASING YOUR OWN SAFETY •

- Make any limits or boundaries you may have known as early as possible.
- Clearly and firmly articulate consent or lack of consent.
- Know that a healthy relationship is when partners respect each other's needs and boundaries. If you think you or someone else is in an [unhealthy relationship](#), [report to the College](#) to access resources.
- Be careful with intimate or private information you share in electronic or online communications.
- Talk often with your partner(s) about your needs.
- Be aware that alcohol and other drug consumption can make it more difficult to communicate and understand communication about boundaries and consent.

• REDUCING YOUR RISK OF BEING ACCUSED OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT •

- Show your potential partner respect if you are in a position of initiating sexual activity.
- If a potential partner says “no,” accept it and do not push. If you want a “yes,” ask for it, and do not proceed without clear permission.
- Clearly communicate your intentions to your potential sexual partners. Give them a chance to share their intentions and/or boundaries with you.
- Avoid ambiguity or vague situations. Do not make assumptions about consent or about whether someone is attracted to you. Do not assume that other people have the same expectations as you do. If you have questions or are unclear, you do not have consent.
- Recognize that just because someone is in a dating relationship, or has given consent for sexual activity in the past, does not indicate they have given consent for future sexual activity.
- Understand your role at ArtCenter and what is expected of you both on and off campus. Educate yourself about the Sexual Misconduct Policy and other applicable policies.
- Be aware that alcohol and other drug consumption can make it more difficult to communicate and understand communication about boundaries and consent.