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## VCFA Goes Remote in response to COVID-19

**Montpelier, VT** – On Tuesday, March 17, Vermont College of Fine Arts implemented its decision to put in place remote working arrangements for all staff, students, and faculty in response to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. In addition, two of their low-residency MFA programs (Graphic Design and Film) which normally meet on campus twice yearly for week-long, intensive residencies, will meet remotely next month. All other events on campus have been cancelled for the month of April.

"The safety of not only VCFA's community but of the wider community is most important, and the college is committed to doing its part to slow the spread of the virus," said President Leslie Ward. "We've been following the virus and began planning for the move to remote learning and work since February. As an arts college, creative solutions are part of our DNA; that and our strong community spirit give me confidence that we can meet these challenges without compromising the rigor of our academics or the strong connective tissue that runs through all our programs."

As of today, there are no known or suspected cases of COVID-19 on campus. VCFA's leadership team has been following the coronavirus outbreak carefully, taking guidance from the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control, and the Vermont Department of Health. In addition to the Vermont campus operating remotely as of mid-March, international summer residencies in Italy and England have been canceled.

At this time, on-campus summer residencies are planned to proceed as scheduled, and college leadership will continue to monitor developments related to the coronavirus outbreak. Up-to-date information on VCFA's ongoing response is available at vcfa.edu/coronavirus-covid-19-information.

## **About VCFA**

VCFA is the only college devoted exclusively to graduate fine arts education. It is accredited by the New England Commission on Higher Education (NECHE) and offers Master of Fine Arts degrees in Film, Graphic Design, Music Composition, Visual Art, Writing, Writing for Children & Young Adults, and Writing & Publishing. <a href="https://www.vcfa.edu">vcfa.edu</a>