

# Welcome to Hawthorn Artist Society

HAS has a proud history of providing a safe, inclusive, respectful and comfortable environment for artists across all our programs. This extends to the employment of our life models, and we are proud of the professional relationship our convenors and artists have fostered with them. This professionalism ensures the models feel comfortable to accept bookings with us and know that they will be treated with respect whilst they are at HAS.

In pursuit of this end, we support the Life Models Society Code of Conduct for life drawing participants, and we expect that members and guests alike familiarise themselves with them and adhered to them.

**HAS takes our role and responsibility here very seriously, so please note that any artist who does not comply may be prohibited from attending, and further disciplinary action may be pursued.**

For your information, the expected behaviours are listed below, however the full LMS Code of Conduct can be found via the following link:

<https://lifemodelssociety.org/conduct/>

## Expected behaviour at a life drawing session

Please ensure the model feels welcome and included in the life drawing group. Please behave with consideration and respect at all times, and be polite and friendly without being overly familiar or overstepping interpersonal boundaries.

Appropriate behaviours include:

### **Please do not comment on a Model's body**

The models are chosen by our convenors to give you a variety of different faces and body types to draw and paint. It is inappropriate to comment on a model's physicality or gender presentation. If you would like to express your gratitude to a model, do not do so by complimenting their physical appearance. Instead, thank them for their poses or tell them what you enjoy about their work.

### **Please use appropriate Pronouns**

A number of life drawing models are transgender or gender diverse. Please don't make assumptions about their gender. If you need to use pronouns, please check with the model on their preference.

### **Please do not touch a Model nor approach them when they are posing**

It is never appropriate to touch a model. Where life models are hired for long poses that require taping of their position at breaks, the model's prior consent must be obtained about who will apply the tape. This is particularly important with female models, where female assistance with taping should be offered where possible. Care should be taken not to touch the model during this process.

Kindly refrain from walking around the room during a pose, as it is disconcerting and distracting for the model and artists alike. If you need to move during a pose, please do so quickly and quietly with a minimum of disturbance, preferably at the start of the pose.

Please also be mindful of moving into a position for a pose that may make the model feel uncomfortable. If in doubt, please have a discussion with the model or convenor about their level of comfort with your chosen position, and allow the model to adjust the pose accordingly. Alternatively, the convenor may require you to move.

### **Please do not Photograph the Model**

Do not photograph the model unless you have a prior agreement. Modelling for photographic purposes is charged at a different, higher rate. To avoid misunderstandings, please be careful when handling your electronic equipment such as phones and tablets during life drawing sessions.

If you plan to make digital art, please obtain the model's prior consent, and confirm that you will not be accessing your camera. If photographing your work during a session, please do so during a break and ensure the model is no longer posing, has put on their robe and is out of the frame.

### **Be courteous, kind and professional**

When suggesting a pose keep in mind that a model is not a mannequin. The model needs to maintain a pose over a period of time and will need to do so within their own limits. These limits will differ over time and from model to model. The more comfortable, respected and safe the model feels, the better the outcome is likely to be.

Please also don't be overly familiar with the models. They are employed in a professional capacity at HAS and should be treated as you would treat any other professional person.

**Thank You**

**HAS Committee 2024**



---

**H**A**W**T**H**OR**N** **A**RT**I**ST **S**O**C**I**E**T**Y**

Please ensure the model feels welcome and included in the life drawing group, to behave with consideration and respect at all times, and to be polite and friendly without being overly familiar or overstepping interpersonal boundaries.