



Dionisio Cimarelli

Wood Carving

Most of the following supplies may be purchased at the League's art supply store, located in the lobby. It is advisable to speak with the instructor before buying supplies.

MATERIAL

Any kind of wood is acceptable to carve. Wood that is dry (wood that is not fresh cut or green) will be easier to work with. Ideally, wood should not be checked or cracked. Some woods that are easily obtained and inexpensive are butternut, poplar and basswood. These woods are reasonably soft. Hard woods such as fruitwoods and walnut are much more expensive and more difficult to find in this area.

SIZE

Since space is limited, all woodcarving students will have to share their workbench with other wood carvers. Please keep this in mind when you purchase your wood. You must be able to lift and carry your wood off the workbench to make it available for someone else when you are not in class.

SAFETY

Protective eyewear **MUST** be worn when carving or sharpening your tools. Goggles are available for purchase in the school supply store.

It is advisable to wear a mask when working in the studio. These are also available from the school supply store. Wood fiber is far more dangerous than stone dust, since the body cannot break down the wood fibers; they can become embedded in your lungs.

TOOLS

The size of your tools should be appropriate for the size of your wood, with the preference towards larger size tools. The following list is what you will ideally end up using, please remember, it is not necessary to purchase all these tool to begin carving, a small sampling of these tools are all you need to start. As you progress, you will want to supplement your toolbox with the rest.

I – Wood Mallet





The Art Students League of New York

215 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019 TEL: 212-247-4510 FAX: 212-541-7024
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- I – Small Deep Gouge Chisel (hardwood)
- I – Large Deep Gouge Chisel (hardwood)



- I – Small Shallow Gouge Chisel (softwood & hardwood)
- I – Large Shallow Gouge Chisel (softwood & hardwood)



Please note that your small gouges should be between 1/2" to 1 1/2" in width. Your large gouges should be between 2" and 3" in width.



I – Combination Grit Benchstone



I – India Slip Stone-fine



Sureform Files or Wood Riflers come in a variety of sizes and shapes. These tools may be needed when you are ready to finish your wood sculpture.

Please read carefully! Failure to do so may result in you losing your work!

Please be advised of new League policies regarding use of the carving studio. Our objective is to create a safe and communal working environment as you learn to hone your skills and knowledge as a sculptor.

1. Stone and wood carving areas are now in the same studio (formerly stone carving studio).
2. One stone per student which may be kept on the student's assigned stone stand.
3. Maximum weight of stone cannot exceed 300 pounds.
4. Maximum size of wood to be carved is 20" in diameter and 36" in height.
5. Only one wood carving per student can be stored.
6. Maximum registration of stone students per class AM, PM or EVE is 10.
7. Maximum registration of wood students per class AM, PM or EVE is 7.
8. No items or materials belonging to the student can be placed anywhere but on the stand.
9. Students who have registered for a particular month that do not register for the following month must remove their work from the studio. The League will not be held responsible for this work and it will be removed from the stand and discarded.
10. If you are not able to register for a period of time you must call the League office and inform them. The League will hold your work in storage for two weeks from the date of the call so that you can make arrangements to have your work taken off the premises. If you cannot make arrangements to have your work removed it will be discarded after two weeks.



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Registration and stand tickets:

Only students currently registered for a carving class may work in the respective studios or use a carving stand. If you are working in stone, you may claim a stand via the following procedure: Once you have registered for class in the office, go to the studio and present your class ticket to the monitor. The monitor will then assign you a numbered stand. Return to the office with this number, and the registrar will give you a color-coded stand ticket for the month. You must affix this ticket to your stand. Failure to attach the ticket may result in the stand being reassigned to another student, and the work on it to be removed and discarded. Stand tickets are assigned on a monthly basis. For as long as you continue to take the class, you must register and affix your new stand ticket by the third day of each new month. Failure to follow this policy may result in your work being removed from the stand and discarded.

Stands for full-time students working in stone:

The League policy is one sculpture stand per student, per full-time class. Carving stands for full-time students working in stone have the following numbered groupings:

AM: 201-210	PM: 221-230	EVE: 241-250
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Stands for students working in wood only:

Students working in wood only share stands with other wood students, so they are required to remove their work from the stand and store the work in the storage area at the end of every class session.



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End of year cleanup:

The Art Students League closes for a short period at the end of the “regular” session (fall/spring) and the end of the summer session in order to clean the studios. During these periods, all materials, including wood pieces in progress, must be removed from the studios and storage areas. However, full-time sculpture students who are registered for the next semester may keep one stone piece (per registered class) on a stand, as long as it is clearly marked with a label color-coded for the month following the clean out period. All pieces remaining on stands that are not marked in this way will be removed and discarded. The League is not responsible for any materials that have been left in any of the studios during the clean out periods.

Class Shows:

Each class is given an opportunity to show the work they’ve produced during the year in the League’s gallery. Your monitor will inform you of when this show takes place. For sculptors, it is particularly important to make sure that your work is properly secured to a base or pedestal when exhibiting your work. The League is not responsible for work damaged during a class show.

Etiquette—working from the model:

If you’re working from the model, work from behind your stand, and make sure that you are not blocking the view of other students. Set up as far back as possible. This allows more room and a better view for everyone. The monitor will turn the model, so you do not have to move. If you need to convey a message to the model, please tell the monitor or the instructor, and they will address the model. Do not talk to or touch the model, even while measuring, and please note that photography of the model is strictly prohibited.

Finishing rooms and pneumatic tools:

Carving students may use the League’s finishing rooms and pneumatic tools (stored in the office) for stone carving. However, since these tools can pose a great danger to you and your fellow students if used improperly, all students must obtain permission from their instructor or monitor before each use. A student may not use the pneumatic tools if the finishing rooms are not under the supervision of a monitor or instructor, even if permission to use the tools has been given to them in the past.

Please note: there is a two-hour limit per student, per session, on the use of all pneumatic tools and finishing rooms. Check with the office for the schedule. No work is to be stored in the finishing room. Students are required to clean the room and remove all work at the end of each session.

Improvements:

Please notify the office about any changes or improvements you think should be added to this information.



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General carving studio information and policies:

- You must provide your own wood and stone for carving. Some students sell stones. If interested, please ask your monitor for more information.
- Workspaces within the studio are on a first-come, first-serve, there are no permanent spots.
- At the end of your session, you must clean up your immediate work area and move your stand and/or piece to your class storage area. If you do not know where this is, ask the monitor.
- Wear eye protection and dust mask at all times when in the studio.
- You may not use any toxic or odor producing materials in the studios.
- To avoid confusion and/or theft, label your tools with your name, and lock them in your locker when they are not in use.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited in all areas of the League's building.
- Do not eat in the studio.
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed in the studios or sculpture areas (except for class parties approved by office).
- No students may remain in the school after 10:30 p.m. on weekdays and 5:30 p.m. on weekends.