2015 SVA Fire Safety Report

Overview
The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 requires that all academic institutions provide an annual fire safety report outlining fire safety practices, standards, and fire incident statistics. The following information relates to our on campus residences, academic and administrative facilities for the School of Visual Arts.

General Information
Residence Halls are equipped with fully automatic sprinkler systems as well as portable fire extinguishers, smoke detection, carbon monoxide, heat detectors in each residence hall room. These systems are also interconnected to Fire Safety panels monitored electronically 24 hours a day/7 days a week. These systems are also monitored by Campus security officers as well as through an independent central station as per NYC code requirements. All systems are equipped with Independent battery backup capability for both the Fire Alarm and annunciation systems as well as for the Emergency Lighting to permit proper and a clear illuminated pathway for egress during an emergency or evacuation situation. Emergency evacuation maps are installed in each residence hall room as well as posted by each elevator clearly defining paths of egress to stairwell if needed. In addition each lobby desk which is staffed on a 24/7 basis maintains a full evacuation and Fire Safety plan detailing all operating systems of the respective facility if needed during a situation or if called upon by the NYCFD to direct occupants to emergency exits or a shelter in place situation.

All occupants and residence hall staff receive fire safety training at the beginning of each academic year. This training includes not only a basic understanding of the facility’s Fire Safety amenities, but also periodic drills which do include physical evacuation drills and instructions by our independent Fire Drill/evacuation monitoring company. Each facility’s plan is periodically reviewed and updated as needed to identify Fire Wardens and the Fire Brigade team members. Fire drills and Evacuation Drills are conducted twice each semester.

Fire safety information is offered to all students, residents, faculty and staff members. All academic/administrative buildings are sprinklered in addition to equipped with portable fire extinguishers, smoke detection and visual/audible fire alarm systems, again all hard wired to a building central Fire Command station and monitored daily on a 24/7 basis. In addition, all Academic and administrative buildings are equipped with automatic sprinkler systems, hard wired Fire Command stations as well as illuminated signage and battery backup systems if needed during a power outage or an emergency situation requiring an evacuation defining a clear pathway of egress. Fire Safety plans and Emergency Evacuation plans with maps are also on hand at each lobby desk and periodically updated as needed. All emergency systems are monitored 24/7 by trained on site personnel. Fire drills are conducted twice each semester as well at these locations.

Fire Related Policies
Specific fire related college policies can be reviewed at the housing and risk management websites.
No fires were reported from January through December of 2014 in college student housing.