**ARRIVE YOGA TEACHER TRAINING POLICIES**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

Our Code of Conduct is intended to provide specific standards to cover most situations encountered by our yoga teachers. Its primary goal is the welfare and protection of our students, teachers, yoga community, and the public. It articulates the ethical standards that our teachers must follow. The Code of Conduct is intended to elevate the professionalism and integrity of our yoga teachers by adopting uniform standards for behavior yet recognizing the diversity of the many traditions of the teaching and practice of yoga.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES

Teachers will be honest, straightforward, fair, and conscientious in conducting all of their business affairs. Teachers will manage their business affairs according to recognized standard business and accounting practices. Teachers will discuss all fees and financial arrangements in a straightforward professional manner.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH/CONTINUING EDUCATION

Teachers shall maintain a regular yoga practice that includes asana and meditation. Teachers shall commit to the continuous improvement of their professional knowledge and skills.

TEACHER-STUDENT RELATIONSHIPS

Teachers recognize the trust placed in them by their students and the power imbalance of the student-teacher relationship.

Teachers shall avoid exploiting the trust and dependency of students.

Teachers shall hold themselves out as stewards of safe and sacred spaces by maintaining clear personal and professional boundaries.

Teachers will continually be aware of their position of power and influence in their relationship with their students.

Teachers will be mindful not to project their own agendas, perceptions, and outcomes on their students.

Teachers will not seek to fulfill their personal needs at their students’ expense.

Teachers shall maintain professional boundaries in relationships with students and avoid any relationships that may exploit trust between the student and teacher.

Teachers recognize that their purpose is to serve their student’s personal exploration and growth.

Teachers will avoid any activity or influence that is in conflict with the best interests of their students or that may be solely for their own personal gain or gratification.

INTEGRITY

Teachers shall commit to the highest standards of professional and personal conduct.

Teachers shall ensure that their behavior does not give even the appearance of professional impropriety.  Any actions which may benefit the teacher to the detriment of the yoga community, or an individual student must be avoided to not erode the public trust in the integrity of yoga.

Teachers shall dedicate themselves to studying, teaching, and promoting the art, science, and philosophy of yoga and to maintaining high standards of professional competence and integrity.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Teachers shall represent their qualifications honestly and provide only the services they are qualified and certified to perform.

Teachers shall not give medical advice.

Teachers shall not recommend treatment, diagnose a condition, or suggest that a student disregard medical advice.

Teachers shall refer their students to medical doctors or complimentary licensed professionals when appropriate.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Teachers shall respect and protect the welfare of all their students or clients.

Teachers shall keep all personal information disclosed by their students or clients strictly confidential. All discussions among teachers concerning students or clients shall be conducted in secure, non-public environments.

Teachers shall not disclose personal information belonging to a student or client except (a) to comply with the law or the order of a court; (b) to prevent bodily harm or danger to the client or to others; or (c) where the information has already been disclosed to the public.

Teachers will obtain the consent of students before audio or video recording in class.

INTER-PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Teachers are part of the health care and well-being community and should strive to develop and maintain relationships within the community for the benefit of their students and their professional development.

Teachers shall conduct themselves in an honorable manner in their relations with their fellow yoga teachers and other wellness practitioners.

Teachers shall work to build the unity of their community by embracing diversity, collaboration, and commitment the benefit of all.

Teachers shall practice tolerance and acceptance toward other yoga teachers, schools and traditions.

Teachers shall not openly criticize practices followed by other yoga schools or teachers. However, teachers recognize that differences of opinion are to be expected, and they may be discussed in a sensitive and compassionate manner. When criticism must be made, it should be done with fairness, discretion and with a focus on the facts.

ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A teacher shall accurately represent his or her professional qualifications and certifications along with his or her affiliations with any organization(s). Announcements and brochures promoting classes or workshops shall describe them with accuracy and grace. These principles are designed to uphold the quality of our teachings and shall follow legal guidelines for appropriate representation of our services.

YOGA EQUITY

Teachers will welcome, accept, and support all students regardless of religion, gender, sexual orientation, language, nationality, political, or cultural background. Teachers will embrace yoga equity.

Teachers shall seek to have an awareness and a commitment to making yoga more equitable, inclusive, accessible, and diverse. This encompasses diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in yoga.

Teachers will make the conscious decision to address each of these issues thoughtfully and intentionally throughout their work in restoring equity to the yoga community.

Teachers will emphasize the importance of learning, teaching, and practicing yoga honestly, which means promoting equity, reducing harm, honoring, and leveraging cultural differences, and fostering diversity and inclusion in all areas of yoga while honoring the integrity of yoga’s cultural and historical roots.