

**TELLURIDE ACADEMY: ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RISKS
& RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

For adult and minor participants

INTRODUCTION

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT (hereafter “Document”) CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING. The adult participant or the parent or legal guardian (hereafter collectively “parent”) of a minor participant (those under 18 yrs. of age; hereafter sometimes “minor” or “child”) must sign this Document.

In consideration of the services of The Telluride Academy, Inc., doing business as Telluride Academy, a Colorado non-profit corporation, and its officers, directors, trustees, board members, advisors, employees, agents, representatives, physician advisors, volunteers and all other affiliated persons or entities (individually and collectively referred to in this Document as “TA”), in allowing me/my child to participate in TA program/s, **I (adult participant or parent of a minor participant) acknowledge and agree as follows:**

PLEASE NOTE: TA includes important information here, such as identifying some of the risks of COVID-19 in our programming environment **As identified below, among other important provisions, I acknowledge that I/my child is voluntarily participating in the activities despite the risks, including the risks associated with COVID-19.**

ACTIVITIES ON FEDERAL LANDS

Some federal land agencies may have restrictions, such as prohibiting service providers from seeking releases of liability for their own negligence when operating under permit on those federal lands. To the extent a court or arbitrator determines, as a matter of law, that these federal restrictions prohibit me from agreeing to any clause below, that clause will not be enforced.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT & ASSUMPTION OF RISKS

Participating (whether attending, observing or actively participating) in TA year-round instructional, educational, recreational and/or adventure program activities includes risks. These activities may take place in Colorado or in other U.S. or international locations, include scheduled or custom programs, and may include, but are not limited to: hiking and peak ascents, backpacking, technical rock climbing (both indoors on artificial walls, and/or outdoors on natural rock), ropes or challenge course activities and zip lining, all of which can include top-roping, belaying and use of ropes, harnesses and/or other technical gear; camping; wilderness exploration; horseback riding; llama trekking; mountain or road bicycling; cross-country/Nordic or downhill skiing; snowboarding; tubing; sledding; snowshoeing; ice skating; swimming; river rafting, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, stand-up paddle boarding or other boating; fishing; snorkeling; surfing; skateboarding; gymnastics; karate; orienteering; archery; theatre; service learning projects; science experiments; arts and crafts; cooking and food preparation; yoga; interactive games and/or other sporting activities; engaging in any activity in a manmade or manipulated park/terrain/skate park setting (e.g. biking, snowboarding, kayaking, skateboarding) or on trails or roads; socializing; use of any equipment, facilities or premises, including homestays or use of backcountry huts; travel on trams, chairlifts or other means, or in airplanes, vans, buses and other vehicles to and from activities or otherwise (collectively referred to in this Document as “activities”). Activities may be day or multi-day, led by TA staff or contractors, mandatory or optional, scheduled or unscheduled, supervised or unsupervised, and/or occur during participant’s free and/or independent time. **I acknowledge that the inherent and other risks, hazards and dangers (sometimes collectively referred to in this Document as “risks”) of the activities can cause injury, damage, death or other loss to participant or others, including me, or other members of my and/or my child’s family.** The parent of a minor gives permission for their child to participate in all TA activities and agrees to discuss the nature of these activities and risks with their child. **The following includes some, but not all of the inherent risks:**

Outdoor environment. Risks include travel in high altitude (depending upon the activities, up to or above 14,000 ft.), mountainous or wilderness terrain both on and off trail, and on land or water. Participant’s travel may be subject to: storms, including strong winds, rain, lightning, snow or ice; extremely hot, humid or cold weather or water and rapid or unpredictable weather changes; flash floods; fast moving rivers or other water bodies, including currents, waves or whitewater; mud, snow or rock slides, including avalanches; steep, exposed and rugged terrain; falling or unstable rocks, ice or snow chunks; falling or fallen timber; stinging, venomous and/or disease carrying animals, insects or microorganisms; poisonous plants; close and unpredictable contact with wild or domestic animals and other natural or man-made hazards. Hazards (both on land and above and below water level) may not be marked or visible and weather is always unpredictable.

U.S. or international location. Travel can involve unique risks, such as political unrest, terrorism and warfare, contact with unusual diseases, viruses or bacteria, exposure to contaminated food or water, dangerous road or travel conditions, thievery, abduction, and other risks. Participants may be subject to laws and legal systems in foreign countries that do not provide the same protections as the U.S. legal system. **NOTE:** Although TA considers current geo-political climates in choosing program locations, TA personnel are not experts in assessing the likelihood of terrorist activity, political unrest, health threats, the need for vaccinations or other issues. Any of these factors – including but not limited to the presence of SARS-CoV-2 (virus) and/or COVID-19 (resulting disease) (sometimes collectively referred to as “COVID-19”) in the US or another country - present numerous uncertainties and risks associated with travel, including but not limited to sudden closing of borders and/or changes in country/state/region quarantine or testing requirements (whether participant is trying to travel to or through, or return from, a travel location), varying or inconsistent global or in country (US or otherwise) travel advisories, cancellation or termination of air, ground or other travel into, through or out of a country, etc.). Participant (or parent of a minor) is responsible for conducting their own independent investigation through the U.S. State Department, Centers for Disease Control, World Health Organization or other sources, should they have questions or concerns about program locations.

Any outdoor or physical activity. Risks include that a participant may overestimate his/her abilities or fitness; be inattentive; lose control and trip or fall and/or collide with, for example, others, the ground, rocks or trees or encounter other animal/water/terrain/road/trail hazards; not understand the functioning of (or misuse) the equipment; encounter the unpredictable or dangerous behavior of a horse or other domestic animal, whether riding or within range of the animal; fail to negotiate steep, uneven or difficult terrain; not control his/her speed or experience equipment malfunction.

Rafting or other boating; swimming. Risks include potential water obstacles or hazards such as rapids, boulders, holes, reversals; slipping on wet rocks or jumping off rocks into the water; jumping/falling into and/or impacting the bottom of a river or other water body and being swept into a river current.

Judgment and decision making. Staff or others, including participants, must make various judgments and decisions in a variety of environments that are, by their nature, imprecise and subject to error. Risks include that a TA staff member, contractor, the participant, a co-participant or other person, may misjudge the participant's (or others) capabilities, health or physical condition, or misjudge some aspect of instruction, medical treatment, weather, terrain, water conditions or water level, or route location.

Personal health and participation. The participant's mental, physical or emotional condition/s (including use or abuse of prescription or non-prescription drugs), disclosed or undisclosed, known or unknown, combined with participation in these activities includes risks. Although TA will review participant's submitted medical information, TA cannot anticipate or eliminate risks or complications posed by participant's mental, physical (including fitness level) or emotional condition. TA has identified "challenge levels" for some programs that contain general information on travel distances and other details, to assist participants in choosing programs. Adult participant or parent assumes full responsibility for selecting courses based upon this or other information, and their own understanding of participant's condition/s. **NOTE:** There are risks associated with participant's contact with other persons, spaces, equipment or otherwise, including the risk of a participant, staff, parent or other persons' carrying, being infected by or contracting SARS-CoV-2 and/or COVID-19 or other disease, virus or bacteria before, during or after a program and/or transmitting it to others, including vulnerable and at-risk populations in the program community or a participant's home community.

Equipment. The risk that equipment used in an activity may be misused, may not fit, or may break, fail or malfunction. This includes participant's personal equipment, TA equipment or any other equipment (whether purchased, borrowed or rented). Participants choosing to bring and use their personal equipment (including any safety gear) assume full responsibility, along with their parent, for choosing appropriate equipment and for the fit and condition of their equipment. TA requires use of helmets or other safety gear for some activities and participants are responsible for keeping safety gear on during these activities. Safety gear may prevent or lessen injuries in some instances; however, use of safety gear is not a guarantee of safety, and injury can occur even with the use of this gear.

Risks connected with geographic location. TA activities may take place in remote places, several hours from any medical facility, causing potential delays or difficulties with communication, transportation, evacuation and medical care - including, in the case of sickness from COVID-19, lack of critical care medical equipment such as but not limited to ventilators. Additional delays can result if circumstances require transport from a foreign country back to the U.S. for medical care. TA staff or contractors may or may not have wireless communication devices (including cell or SAT phones); nevertheless, use of these communication devices in any location is unreliable and inconsistent.

Cooking, camping and travel. Risks include gas explosion, scalding or other burns associated with tending to, cooking over or being near a gas stove or open fire. Contaminated water is a risk in natural or primitive settings. Food or water is also provided by vendors, contractors, public restaurants, host families or others with risks of contamination or allergic reaction. Camp sites include risks such as falling trees and/or branches, floods, wildlife disturbances, unknown third parties and other hazards.

Campgrounds, homestays, group or community accommodations. Risks include sharing rooms or space with unrelated parties or homestay families, lack of privacy and security and unsanitary living conditions. In addition, participants may live with a homestay family without direct TA staff supervision and may travel to and from their accommodations or homestay family independently.

Free time. Participants may have free and/or independent unsupervised time before, during and after the start of activities and at various other times. Unsupervised time may include free or independent time alone or with others and/or time spent with home-stay families. Participants will not be directly supervised or watched during nighttime sleeping hours, whether in a hostel, hotel, homestay, tent or other accommodation.

Participant conduct; interactions with people. Risks associated with the participant's interactions with other participants or third parties including any person's carelessness or other misconduct, reliance on or interactions with TA, its contractors, homestay families or other known or unknown persons, including the possibility of inadvertent touching by - or unwanted sexual advances from - anyone.

The inherent risks - and any other risks - may result in participants: falling partway or falling to the ground or into the water; being struck by, colliding with or impacting objects, a climbing wall or rock face, people, animals or the bottom of a river or other water body; experiencing vehicle or boat collision, capsize or rollover; getting caught or entangled in objects above or below water; reacting to high altitudes, weather conditions or increased exertion; becoming lost or disoriented; suffering gastro-intestinal complications or allergic reactions, being subjected to sexual harassment, abuse or assault; being exposed to, contracting and/or transmitting to others life threatening human/animal/insect/other borne communicable and/or contagious diseases, such as but not limited to COVID-19 (via the SARS-CoV-2 virus); or experiencing other problems. These and other circumstances may cause heat or cold related illnesses or conditions (including hypothermia, hyperthermia, cold water immersion, frostbite or heat exhaustion/stroke), dehydration, drowning, suffocation, high altitude sickness, heart or lung complications, broken bones, paralysis or other permanent disability, mental or emotional trauma, pregnancy, concussions, sunburn or other burns, infections, illnesses, cuts or wounds or other injury, damage, death or loss.

I (adult participant or parent of a minor participant) agree:

- to review all TA information received, complete and sign all required forms, and abide by the terms of those documents and TA rules or other policies, **including new policies developed in light of COVID-19;**
- in registering for a TA program, I am legally bound by, and my I/my child will comply with, the TA Registration Terms & Conditions and TA Code of Conduct (available for review on TA's website at www.tellurideacademy.org).
- TA representatives are, and have been available should I have further questions about the activities, associated risks or other issues;
- to disclose to TA representatives any mental, physical or emotional condition/s or limitation/s which might affect participant's ability to participate, and represent that participant is fully capable of participating without causing harm to himself/herself or others;

- the information provided above or otherwise is not complete, other unknown or unanticipated activities, risks, and outcomes may exist, and TA cannot assure participant's safety or eliminate any of the risks; **at all times, participants share in the responsibility for their own well-being and the well-being of the group;**
- **if participant is borrowing, renting or purchasing new or used equipment from TA, the equipment comes "AS-IS," and TA disclaims all warranties, express or implied (including any conditions of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose) with regard to the equipment;**
- TA contracts with individuals/organizations that are independent contractors (not their employees or agents) to provide some of the services and activities participants may engage in. TA does not supervise or control these contractors and is not legally liable or responsible for their conduct; I acknowledge that I may independently investigate and assess these individuals, organizations, services or activities, if I choose.
- **Participant is voluntarily participating with knowledge of the risks. Therefore, participant (and parent of a minor) assume and accept full responsibility for participant, for the inherent and other risks of the activities (known and unknown, described above or otherwise) and for any injury, damage, death or other loss suffered by participant (and parent of a minor) resulting from those risks, including the risk of participant's own negligence or other misconduct. Participant/parent further agree to assume and accept any increased risks to the participant, parent or others, related to participation in TA programming in the midst or wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic.**

RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

Please read carefully. This Release and Indemnity agreement contains a surrender of certain legal rights. I (adult participant, or parent for myself and for and on behalf of my participating minor child) agree as follows:

1) to release and agree not to sue TA with respect to any and all claims, liabilities, suits or expenses (including attorneys' fees and costs) (hereafter collectively "claim" or "claim/s"), for any injury, damage, death or other loss in any way connected with my/my child's enrollment or participation in program/s and/or activities. **I understand I agree here to waive all claim/s I or my child may have against TA, bind my/my child's estate and any family member/heir/other party bringing claim/s, and agree that neither I, my child, nor anyone acting on my or my child's behalf, will make a claim against TA as a result of any injury, damage, death or other loss suffered by me or my child;**

2) to defend and indemnify ("indemnify" meaning protect by reimbursement or payment) **TA**, with respect to any and all claim/s brought by or on behalf of me, my participating child, my spouse, my/my child's other family member/s, heir/s or estate, a co-participant or any other person or entity for any injury, damage, death or other loss in any way connected with my/my child's enrollment or participation in program/s and/or activities. This includes but is not limited to any claim/s brought by a medical care provider, insurer or other third party as a result of medical or other care or services provided to the participant before, during or after a program and/or activities, including transportation and evacuation costs.

This Release and Indemnity Agreement includes claim/s of or resulting from TA's negligence (but not its gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct) and includes claim/s for personal injury or wrongful death (including claim/s related to emergency, medical, drug and/or health issues and any related response, assessment or treatment), property damage, loss of consortium, breach of contract or any other claim.

OTHER PROVISIONS

I (adult participant or parent of a minor participant) agree:

- Colorado substantive law (without regard to its "conflict of law" rules) governs this Document, any dispute I or my child have with TA and all other aspects of my/my child's relationship with TA, contractual or otherwise, and agree that any lawsuit or other legal proceeding must be filed or entered into only in San Miguel County, Colorado, which shall be the sole jurisdiction and venue for any such proceeding;
- to attempt to settle any dispute (not settled by discussion) through mediation before a mutually acceptable Colorado mediator;
- in regard to my relationship with TA, I agree that the contents of this Document will take precedence over any other forms or contracts I may sign (for parties other than TA) in connection with the activities;
- If I am a parent, I agree that if my status as a minor's parent is challenged or found invalid, at any point, I agree to release, not to sue, indemnify and defend TA to the fullest extent allowed by law and per the provisions of this Document, just as if I were the child's legal parent;
- **This Document is intended to be interpreted and enforced to the fullest extent allowed by law. Any portion of this Document deemed unlawful or unenforceable shall not affect the remaining provisions, and those remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.**

I (adult participant or parent of a minor participant) agree: I have carefully read, understand and voluntarily sign this Document, and acknowledge that it shall be effective and legally binding upon me, my spouse, participating child and other children, and participant's/parent's other family members, heirs, executors, representatives, subrogees, assigns and estate. ***The adult participant (those 18 yrs. of age or older) or the parent of a minor participant must sign below.***

I understand my signature is valid and legally binding whether I choose to electronically sign, or manually sign a printable version of this Document.