

Seven Star Women's Kung Fu Gender Policy

As of April 2018

Seven Star welcomes students who identify as girls/women, either cisgender (refers to people whose gender identity aligns with their assigned sex at birth) or transgender (refers to people whose gender identity differs from their assigned sex at birth), and students who identify their gender as somewhere on the spectrum between male and female (non binary/gender diverse/genderfluid/genderqueer). We refer transgender men to local co-ed schools that are a part of our school's lineage and extended Kajukenbo family.

Our transgender and gender diverse students are under no obligation to inform us of their gender identity, and Seven Star's teachers do not know the gender identity of all of our students. Therefore, as a general rule, the teachers strive to use non-gendered language when referring to a group of students as a whole or referring to a specific student whose gender identity we don't know. We invite students to share their pronouns in opening circles when we say our names and when we partner up. Ask a student/teacher what their pronoun is if you are uncertain.

We strongly encourage all of our students to use non-gendered language--respecting students' pronouns and using terms like "folks", "students", "friends", "you all (or y'all)", "comrades", etc. instead of "you guys" or "ladies." Any student can respectfully remind teachers/assistants to use gender free terms if they forget. In these ways, students and teachers work together to become diversity advocates.

Our teaching staff and steering committee members have had, and will continue to have, many conversations about our role in serving women and gender-diverse people, and what it means to continue as a school that is not open to people who identify as men.