

Fall 2021 University of Mississippi Department of Music Protocols and Resources August 23, 2021

This document contains health and safety protocols that must be followed and maintained. It is impossible for us to eliminate all risks from infection, but we are doing everything we can to mitigate risks associated with infection from COVID-19. We will continue to update the semester's protocols in response to the severity of the pandemic, and regulations set by university, local, and state authorities.

The COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States are *highly effective* at preventing severe disease and death, including against the Delta variant. But they are not 100% effective and some fully vaccinated people will become infected (called a breakthrough infection) and experience illness. For such people, the vaccine still provides them strong protection against serious illness and death.

Building

- Masks must be worn in the building. Exceptions to the requirement are limited to time spent in **single-occupancy offices** with a closed door (**not practice rooms**) or related to wind/brass private lessons (see below).
- We will utilize space in the music building in a controlled manner, as well as green spaces near the music building. All activity in music classrooms (including outdoor) and performance spaces must be planned and reserved ahead of time.
- The Conference Room may be used as a quiet individual work space when not in use for scheduled classes and meetings.
- Social distance whenever possible.
- The main music, band, and choral offices are intended for business and should not be used as places to hang out.
- Hand sanitizing stations are placed in prominent locations around the building.
- Hand washing - Everyone should wash their hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds (entering and exiting campus spaces, before eating, after blowing their nose, coughing sneezing or touching their face). People should avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Eating is **not** permitted in common areas throughout the music building.
- Wipe stations are located in or around classrooms.
- Interior doors should remain open as much as possible.
- Follow posted instructions for **cleaning pianos with peroxide**.

Indoor Music Making

- Woodwind/brass **unvaccinated** students will play with a slit mask (smallest slit possible for the mouthpiece and flute players will put the head-joint between their mouth and the mask) and bell covers.
- Woodwind/brass **vaccinated** students will lower their mask only when playing. Bell covers are encouraged.
- Water key etiquette must be maintained. Drape water valve and collect condensation in a towel.
- Instrument bells should be directed away from others as much as possible.

- Social distance as much as possible.
- All other members of the class or ensemble will remain masked at all times.
- **Larger ensemble rehearsals** (more than 6 people making music simultaneously) will be **no longer than an hour** and then the space will be cleared for 20 minutes.
- **All classroom/rehearsal singing must remain masked.**
- Solo recitals – Vaccinated performers may be mask free while on stage (all instruments). Unvaccinated performers must be masked (all instruments) and use bell covers (appropriate instruments).
- Audience members will be made aware of performances that include mask free music making. If attendance to an event is connected to a course and the student is **not** comfortable with mask free music making, they will be excused as long as the request is submitted in writing at least 48-hours before the event.

Attendance and COVID-19

- Get tested if you are symptomatic and contact Student Health (662)915-7274 or Employee Health (662)915-6550 immediately. Visit <https://healthcenter.olemiss.edu/covid-19-faqs/> for more information.
- **If you test positive, follow Isolation guidelines:** <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/campus-ready/quarantine-and-isolation/>
- Students should immediately contact instructors if they are in isolation or quarantine.

University Reminders:

- Students, Staff, and Faculty should use the Symptom Checker and follow general health and safety protocols found here: <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu>
- If you find someone not following the protocols, you can report the incident. Students to Student Conduct (<https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/compliance/>) and Faculty/Staff to the appropriate Dean/Chair.
- Guidelines for Isolation and Quarantine: <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/campus-ready/quarantine-and-isolation/>
- **Students must report positive COVID tests to Student Health and employees must report positive tests to Employee Health, regardless of where the test was performed.**
- The expectations that are outlined in this document are in addition to the University of Mississippi's protocols <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/campus-ready/>. This document is intended for all members of the UM Music community (faculty, staff, students), as well as contractors, vendors, visitors and guests - anyone who needs to use the music building.