



TSP COVID Procedure Guide

Updated 11/20/2022

Dear Theatre South Playhouse Family,

As we manage through these constant changing times, Theatre South Playhouse remains committed to your safety and health. We take pride that we have not had to cancel any performances due to a COVID outbreak since we reopened our space in 2020.

Our COVID policies still remain fluid as we consider how the city's numbers rise and fall as well as the number of inhouse cases called in by our staff, cast members, and students. As we are a uniquely intimate space, we base our masking/testing policies on many factors; we take direction from The Actor's Equity Association, other Regional 99 seat black box theaters that are similar in size to ours, and our partnering local theaters and arts industry leaders and adjust our plans accordingly. When our neighboring theaters are forced to cancel shows due to high cases then we go back and reevaluate. We make decisions that will best protect our actors and students and to ensure that the show will go on!

We have updated our COVID-19 PROCEDURE GUIDE to give guidance on what to do should you feel like you have COVID-19 symptoms, COVID-19 exposure or test positive for COVID-19.

In order to offer our performers and families the safest and most enjoyable experience possible, the following operational changes will remain in effect until further notice.

Theatre South Playhouse (TSP) will continue to incorporate enhanced safety measures, including increased cleaning procedures, the use of appropriate face coverings by staff, performers and guests, when required, and additional safety training for staff.

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and guests with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable.



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By participating in any TSP shows, events or classes, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.

Given this unprecedented situation, we appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we navigate through this process responsibly. Please read our updated guide and then retain it for your records.

Thanks so much for your continued support of the performing arts. Let's continue to look out for each other while we welcome back live theatre!

With much appreciation,
Hillary Brook

Executive Director of Theatre South Playhouse

**This plan will be "fluid" and may be adjusted monthly as new research and AEA recommendations are released. Theatre South is working to stay consistent with our partnering local theatre companies when it comes to rehearsal masking and to other Regional 99 seat theaters for audience masking decisions to ensure a safe environment for our students, guests, and staff.*

Face covering requirements



Masks are encouraged but optional until further notice for our classes, and lessons. This includes all camps, musical theatre classes, and voice lessons. Masks will be worn during all show rehearsals with the exception of those show teams that are doing weekly COVID testing. Until further notice all audiences are encouraged to wear face coverings during performances in our intimate space.

Physical distancing



We are encouraging physical distancing by spreading out in our classrooms and rehearsal spaces.



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Wash and sanitize hands often

We are encouraging staff and performers to wash/sanitize their hands several times throughout the day. Ample hand sanitizer stations have been strategically placed throughout the classrooms, lobbies, and public areas.



Sick Student/Performer/Staff

Sick students, performers and staff are asked to stay home if they are feeling ill. If a staff member, student or performer appears ill, they will be isolated in a safe place and asked to go home immediately.

****Due to our intimate space, until further notice, masks will be required for our audiences for Public Performances.***

THE TSP COVID PLAN OCTOBER 2022

**This plan will be “fluid” and will be adjusted as new research and CDC recommendations are released. Theatre South is working to stay consistent with our partnering local theatre companies to ensure a safe and inclusive environment for our students, guests, and staff.*

- **We will continue with constant cleaning and disinfecting of all areas by our staff**
- **Please monitor your/your child’s health and please stay home if you/they are not feeling well**
- **Please sanitize at the front door and throughout the day**

MASK USE: **Subject to change*

- **Mask wearing is encouraged but optional until further notice for students, with the exception of show rehearsals.**

**These policies will be reevaluated every two weeks.*



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FOR PRIVATE LESSONS:

- **Masks will be optional for voice students in certain voice studios. A list will be made available of our different voice studio policies.**

**These policies will be reevaluated every two weeks.*

- **All lunches and snacks are encouraged to be eaten outside on our patio outside the theater, socially distant**
- **If needed, families can choose to go “online” and continue the same program at home; students would then meet online with our classroom facilitator every morning and will end their day with our TSP theatre classes online**
- **If a student, staff member or a family member within the same household tests positive for COVID, the student or staff member may not return to school until a quarantine time of at least 5 days and they submit a negative COVID test**

SHOWS: All casts and crew will be required to participate in our company COVID testing during weekly to attend rehearsals/performances maskless.

**Students and performers will not be entitled to a refund for missing any classes, rehearsals, or performances due to illness, Covid-19 symptoms, potential exposure/close contact to Covid-19 or testing positive for Covid-19*

Given this unprecedented situation, we appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we navigate through this process responsibly.

-Team Theatre South Playhouse

Procedure for Potential Exposure or Close Contact:

1. If a an unvaccinated student, performer or staff member has experienced potential exposure or has been in close contact or has primary contact with someone who has COVID-19-like symptoms and/or is awaiting test results, then,



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The student, performer or staff member must:

- a. Notify the Admin desk at TSP via email at Admin@TheatreSouthPlayhouse.org of the close contact/ potential exposure as soon as possible but no more than 12 hours after knowledge of the COVID-19 contact.
2. The student, performer or staff member may not return to TSP or participate in any TSP sponsored event until:
 - a. At least 5 days of quarantine have passed, AND
 - b. Are symptom-free for at least 72 hours (no cough or shortness of breath), AND
 - c. No fever for at least 72 hours (three full days of no fever) without the use of fever-reducing medicine, AND
 - d. Have received a negative test within 72 hours of returning to TSP.
 - e. Student, performer or cast may participate in virtual rehearsal or classes if possible while at home, but will not be entitled to a refund due to missing any rehearsals, classes, or performances.

Procedure for A Student, Performer or Staff Member tests positive for COVID-19:

1. If a vaccinated or unvaccinated student, performer or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, then the student, performer or staff member must:
 - a. Notify the Admin Desk at TSP at Admin@TheatreSouthPlayhouse.org via email of the positive COVID-19 diagnosis as soon as possible but no more than 12 hours after knowledge of the COVID-19 contact.
2. The student, performer or staff member may not return to TSP or participate in any TSP sponsored event until:
 - a. At least 5 or more days of quarantine have passed since testing positive for COVID-19, AND
 - b. Are symptom-free for at least 72 hours (no cough or shortness of breath),



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AND

- c. No fever for at least 72 hours (three full days of no fever) without the use of fever-reducing medicine, AND
- d. Have received a negative COVID test within 72 hours of returning to TSP.
- e. Student, performer or cast may participate in virtual rehearsal or classes if possible while at home, but will not be entitled to a refund due to missing any rehearsals, classes, or performances

Thank you for following these guidelines so that we may ensure safe learning and get back to live theatre!