



June 22, 2021

Covid-19 Health and Safety Guidelines 2021/22 Season

GENERAL

Opera Carolina's commitment is to ensure to the best of our ability, the health and safety of the performing company, and to continue to provide a positive work environment for everyone.

In order to protect artists and provide a safe environment to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, Opera Carolina has updated its criteria for participation and our protocols for rehearsals, small collaborative performances, large gatherings and performances.

We emphasize that everyone has a moral duty to act responsibly for the safety of themselves and their colleagues. **Therefore, it is the policy of Opera Carolina that all performing artists and production personnel for Grand Opera, Opera Unlimited, Education, and Community Programs be fully vaccinated or have documentation of natural immunity, as a condition of engagement.**

Prior to the first rehearsal in which an artist is participating, the company will ask for written documentation of vaccination. Artists who may not be vaccinated for religious, economic or health reasons should speak with either the Artistic Director of COO/CFO before attending the first rehearsal a production.

For members of the Opera Carolina Academy, including instructors, student participants and on-site leaders of related education/learning experiences who may not be vaccinated or do not have natural immunity, protective masks are to be worn at all times during live rehearsals and instructional sessions.

We acknowledge that established safety protocols will change. Opera Carolina continues to monitor protocols and will adjust this document accordingly.

We encourage an open dialogue with all company members. The Artistic Director, COO/CFO and Director of Production are available via email or phone to answer questions and discuss issues with you. If we cannot provide the required information, we will either refer you to someone who can, or research for the information.

Please sign below and return to the company as acknowledgment you have received and read the guidelines and will meet them to the best of your ability while working for Opera Carolina.

Verification

Signature

Your Name

Date: _____

Thank you.

James Meena
Artistic Director
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Vanessa Thorne
COO/CFO
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Michael Baumgarten
Director of Production
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Vaccinations

Current research confirms that being fully vaccinated minimizes the risk of getting the coronavirus, with a high level of effectiveness in mitigating transmission.

Non-vaccinated individuals who may have had COVID-19 do have natural immunity to the extent of the severity of the infection. However, it is recommended that even those with natural immunity receive the vaccine.

Screening Questionnaire

For rehearsals and performances not taking place in a theater managed by the PAC, and acknowledging that vaccination is not a 100% guarantee of carrying the coronavirus, a designated Opera Carolina representative may ask each artist to complete, either in writing or verbally, the following questionnaire before entering the facility:

Over the past 14 days, have you experienced ANY of these symptoms as a change from your normal baseline:

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Dry cough | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Shortness of breath | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Muscle aches | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Sore throat | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Headache (influenza like illness) | | _____ |
| 6. Fatigue (influenza like illness) | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Have you had close contact with anyone
Who has covid-19?
(Close contact is defined as less than 6 ft. for more than 10 minutes) | _____ | _____ |

If 'Yes' to any of the above, the Artist may be released from rehearsal or performance by the designated Opera representative.

In the event a temperature of 100.4 or higher is recorded, and/or answers 'yes' to any of the above health/wellness questions, it is recommended they see a physician immediately and receive a covid test. A negative test would then be required for readmission to rehearsal.

Artist Name _____

Date _____

Opera Carolina personnel completing the interview/form _____



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Note that artists attending performances and rehearsals at PAC managed facilities will be subject to protocols established by the PAC, unless PAC has authorized or deferred establishing protocols to Opera Carolina, in which case protocols expressed in this document will apply.

General Guidelines for Artists - Minimizing Transmission of the coronavirus

Self-assessment

- Company members demonstrating any symptom of a cold, sinusitis, flu or other ailment may be excused from a rehearsal or performance without penalty.
 - Notice is to be given no later than 24-hours prior to the rehearsal or performance to the Opera designated representative.

Handwashing/Sanitizing

- Wash and/or sanitize hands frequently throughout the day.
- Take extra care of personal hygiene before coming to a rehearsal or performance.

For Opera Carolina Academy and Academy Chorus:

- Participants will be screened per the above form before entering the rehearsal room;
 - Including Singers, Pianists, Instructors, Teaching Artists and Parent Volunteers.
- For vaccinated/natural immunity participants and instructors, no mask will be required;
- For un-vaccinated participants, a mask will be required at all times.

Opera Carolina's responsibility to you

1. To provide well-ventilated rehearsal spaces. (Note that current protocols do not require 'resting the room' in between rehearsals).
2. Ensure that surfaces have been cleaned with disinfectant before rehearsals and/or performances. (Note that current protocols do not require periodic cleaning of surfaces more than once).
3. Opera Carolina will maintain a supply of hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes on site.
4. Costume fittings may be staggered more than normal to allow for proper social distancing. Make-up calls may be staggered more than normal to allow for proper social distancing. Plan ahead as this may mean your call could be much earlier than under normal conditions.
5. The wig and makeup staff will do their utmost to follow Sanitation guidelines including sanitizing brushes with covid-approved procedures and using makeup supplies that are unique to individuals. Staff may wear masks to protect you. To protect the staff, to assist with preshow scheduling, and to ensure no cross contamination due to airborne particles in the room, you may be asked to apply some or part of your makeup in your personal dressing room. Providing your own makeup is the best way to avoid any cross contamination.
6. Artists, Musicians and Technicians who may invoke an exemption from vaccination will be conferred with on an individual basis. Opera Carolina will make every effort to reach an accommodation with those affected by company COVID policies.
7. Opera Carolina will only require testing if an Artist displays symptoms. Rapid Test results are acceptable:



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PCR/Molecular

- **Positive Test:** If positive, the artist should be isolated, as they may have or are recovering from COVID-19;
- **Negative Test:** As these tests identify very low viral loads, a negative test means it is very unlikely that a person will become infectious that day, and precautions can be reduced.

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- **Positive Test:** These identify infectious individuals with high viral loads. If there is a positive test result, the person should isolate.
- **Negative Test** indicates it is unlikely that the individual has COVID-19. However, it is possible that their viral load at the time of testing was not high enough to trigger a positive result, but could increase during the day.

Additional Guidelines for Orchestra Musicians

TBD

Additional Guidelines for rehearsals and performances at the Belk or Knight Theaters

It is the policy of Opera Carolina that all performing artists and production personnel for Grand Opera, Opera Unlimited, Education and Community Programs be fully vaccinated, or have documentation of natural immunity, as a condition of engagement. This will allow everyone to return to work without masks and social distancing.

For more information about vaccination options and data, please visit:

https://www.novanthhealth.org/home/coronavirus-resources/covid-19-treatment/vaccine.aspx?utm_campaign=p:van_a:nh_b:null_d:null_s:brand_c:inst-overall_k:null_i:brand_m:none_g:nc_n:null_t:cta-learnmore&utm_source=Vanity&utm_medium=billbd&utm_content=GetInformedatgetvaccinated.org&ecid=n20cmbovebbobnc