KCPA Resident Producers *revised as of: 9/27/21 (tac)*

**2021-2022 Revised Covid Rehearsal + Performance Procedures**

The guidance in this document was created using the best available information from the CDC, industry organizations, State of Illinois as well as campus policy and FAA requirements. Rehearsal and performance policies adopted by the Board of Producers have been approved by FAA and campus. BOP and KCPA Production will update policies and practices as new information comes out and as campus issues new directives. The policies outlined below are therefore subject to change.

The Rehearsal Procedures outlined in this document will be supervised and enforced by the faculty members in the rehearsal/tech (ie. director, music director, choreographer, etc.) and/or an assigned Covid Rehearsal Monitor.

**Rehearsals**

* Masked are required at all times in during all indoor group rehearsals, costume fittings and technical rehearsals for all BOP/ResProd productions and events.
* Individual coaching rehearsals where it is necessary for the instructor or coach to see the mouth of an unmasked performer will be conducted in a large rehearsal hall or on stage with a minimum of 15ft of distance between the unmasked performer and coach. If multiple performers will be unmasked they will maintain 6 ft social distancing and not directly face each other. The maximum number of unmasked performers in any coaching session will be 8. Whenever possible performers and coaches will utilize face shields when unmasked in a rehearsal room.
* Whenever possible stage directors for plays, musicals and operas will maintain 3’0” minimum social distancing between performers, and limit intimacy and close contact situations. No exchange of beverages or food between performers. No kissing or exchange of salvia/breath.
* Directors and Stage Managers should extend at least one of the breaks during each rehearsal to 15 minutes in order for everyone to step outside and have some mask-free time.

**Performances**

* Student performers need the opportunity to perform without masks to support skills development in vocal production and expression.
* Following Illinois Department of Health guidance performers may remove masks onstage during sound checks, dress rehearsals and performances if performers are vaccinated, testing every other day and/or show proof of a negative test within the past 48 hours upon arrival to the theatre.
  + Lyric Theatre: Staging should maintain a 6’0” minimum distancing between unmasked performers as much as possible. With no more than 8 performers unmasked on stage at one time.
  + Theatre: Staging should maintain a 3’0” minimum distancing between unmasked performers as much as possible with no more than 8 performers on stage unmasked at all times. We will use vocal amplification from the new sound system in the Playhouse to reduce the need for performers to project fully and mitigate forced breath that may produce extended range of respiratory droplets. The Studio theater does not require the same level of vocal production as a larger space.
  + Dance: To allow for the full range of tools necessary for artistic expression, dancers will be unmasked. Dance pieces are generally no more than 20 minutes long, with not all performers on stage all the time or at the same time. This puts exposure without masks under 15 minutes for each dancer and within CDC guidelines regarding exposure limits between unmasked persons.
  + When possible, face shields will be utilized.
* Any performer who wants or needs to wear a mask onstage during performances will be allowed and accommodated. Performers may change their mind at any time and request to be masked.
* Everyone must wear a mask backstage at all times. Performers who intend to perform unmasked should remove masks in the wings immediately prior to entering the stage and replace masks when exiting.
* ***Audience members must be masked and at least 15’0” from all unmasked performers.***
* All spaces in KCPA meet HVAC air-circulation recommendations as outlined by the CDC.

**Outdoor Rehearsals/Performances**

* Following state guidelines, outdoor rehearsals and performances are the safest option and can therefore be unmasked without any distancing requirements.
* There is no kissing, exchange of saliva/breath and no sharing of beverages or food.

**Musical/Opera Musicians**

* Following the state’s guidelines for indoor musicians, we will maintain 3’0” social distancing between players for pit orchestras and bands associated with musicals and operas. Musicians will wear masks. Wind and brass players will utilize modified masks that allow them to play instruments following School of Music guidelines in place at the time of performance.
* If adequate ventilation cannot be accomplished in the orchestra pit, musicians will perform in an alternative location.

**Building Access and Testing**

* For Rehearsal: Each producer must designate a person to check Building Access Status of everyone present before each rehearsal begins. If a performer or any member of the production team receives an “Access Denied” notification, they will not be permitted to participate in the rehearsal
* For techs, dress and performance: The stage management team will check boarding passes when they check in performers and crew. Those with “Access Denied” will not be admitted to the theater or backstage areas. The Producer will make provisions for someone to check boarding passes of theater personnel (designers, advisers, etc.) during tech and dress rehearsals. This cannot be the stage manager.
* Everyone involved in the production is expected to test 3 times per week during rehearsals, regardless of vaccination status. Performers who are unmasked on stage are required to test every other day during dress rehearsals and performances.

**Cleaning/Sanitizing**

* Frequent handwashing and use of hand sanitizer continue to be strongly encouraged. Hand sanitizer should be readily available in the rehearsal room and backstage.
* The prop and costume departments will develop specific sanitation guidelines based on the needs of each production.

**People in Rehearsal**

* For productions that rehearse in our smaller rooms, we may need to consider limiting the number of production team, advisors and guests that attend the designer run in the rehearsal room or consider having two separate run throughs.
* Zoom and video recordings will be permitted as needed.