

Preparing NOW for Fall Semester 2020 in the face of COVID-19

Snow College and the Division of Fine Arts, Communication, and New Media (Art, Communication, Dance, Music, and Theatre) have created these POLICIES and PROCEDURES to provide a safe and health-preserving environment in which Students, Faculty, and Staff may interact, and engage in the creative and educational process *together* without having to resort to physical separation and exclusive on-line instruction. The intent is to preserve the health and safety of Students, Faculty, and Staff, while allowing for in-person, collaborative work by Ensembles, Companies, Cohorts, and Productions.

The State of Utah has developed a color-coded health guidance system. This document seeks to match POLICIES and PROCEDURES with the State's Health Guidance System. "Each level of the dial is guided by a rigorous measurement system. **GREEN** means "all clear" with no restrictions. **YELLOW** suggests LOW Risk; **ORANGE** indicates MODERATE Risk; **RED** indicates HIGH Risk"¹.

Following these Policies and Procedures may make it possible for the College Experience to be full and enriching by allowing for some Face-to-Face and Group Activities, even in the face of COVID-19 restrictions. Students and Faculty must be willing and able to start the semester healthy, and stay unexposed to the COVID-19 virus by maintaining social distancing, masking as needed, and restricting social contacts.

All participants in Fine Arts Ensembles, Companies, Cohorts, and Productions will be expected to abide by these instructions, having full awareness that their choices and actions will directly impact the quality of their college experience.

Before coming to Snow College

- 2-week Self-Isolation
 - We recommend all students planning to participate in Music Ensembles, Theatre classes and/or productions, Dance classes and/or productions, or Art labs should limit exposure to those outside of family and closest personal associates for two weeks prior to arriving on Campus.
- College Policy is that all Students, Faculty, and Staff must wear a Face Covering whenever they are on campus³.
 - In addition to classroom and study equipment (laptop, notebooks, pens & pencils, etc.), a personal mask will be required. Wearing a mask in classrooms, offices, and common areas will be mandatory for all Students, Faculty, and Staff in ALL FINE ARTS BUILDINGS under conditions **YELLOW** and **ORANGE**. Campus will be closed if we reach condition **RED**, and all instruction will be done remotely.
 - Personal masks must be kept clean at all times⁵.
 - We recognize that some students, for health reasons, may not be able to wear a mask. Consult with ensemble director or professor. Final decisions regarding ensemble participation will be made by Department Chair and Dean. (In justified cases, scholarship and academic standing will not be adversely impacted.)

¹ <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/utahs-moderate-risk-phase/>

³ https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/04/dont-wear-mask-yourself/610336/?utm_medium=offsite&utm_source=medium&utm_campaign=all

⁵ Masks must be kept clean. Daily cleaning is best. See: <https://www.latimes.com/science/story/2020-04-04/how-to-keep-your-coronavirus-face-mask-clean>

ENSEMBLES

Conductors should program such that ensembles may easily be broken into smaller sub-groups. Ensembles should be populated with State Health Guidance System and the *Performing Arts Aerosol Study*⁶ (2020, attached) in mind.

Condition GREEN

- No restrictions (Business as usual)
- Fever, Coughing or Sneezing? STAY AWAY!!!

Condition YELLOW

Ensembles will rehearse in spaces that allow for maximum Social Distancing.

- Rehearsals will be conducted in accordance with the General Considerations recommended in the *Performing Arts Aerosol Study* (July 2020). <https://www.nfhs.org/media/4029952/preliminary-testing-report-7-13-20.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0j5yJ5dpsCc4iGkOTxHc4u7qwxqiHrXTMKJYw4DF3CF-vUd-OFk7kaYUY>
- Students must be masked. *Where possible, a mask with a small slit for mouthpiece access should be worn while playing.*
- All wind instrument players must bring a towel to rehearsals. Use the towel to collect condensation generated by playing the instrument.
- After every rehearsal, Student Leaders wearing masks will disinfect all Chairs, Music Stands, Pianos and other “touch instruments”.
- Fever, Coughing or Sneezing? STAY AWAY!!!

Condition ORANGE

- In addition to all “Yellow” stipulations...
- Not more than 40 in a classroom or rehearsal OR on-stage, including conductor and accompanists, Socially Distanced (>6’ apart)
- Fever, Coughing or Sneezing? STAY AWAY!!!

Condition RED

Campus is closed, Ensembles transition to pre-defined Remote-Delivery positions as determined by Ensemble Conductor. Possible strategies:

- Recording – Work throughout Fall Semester to create a Horne School of Music Sampler Recording – could be called *A Cache Valley Bank Christmas* – to share with Cache Valley Bank customers, as well as creating a memento for our students (limited release and mechanical license exposure). If we can stay out of CODE RED, this work is done in-person. If not, the work is done remotely, as we did with the Alma Mater, only with more detailed instruction, only with auditioned ensembles, with the goal of excellent quality.
- Standard Repertoire Study – Examine, via recordings and scores, our list of “standards” in each genre (band, orchestra, choir, jazz ensemble, etc.). Students study the works listed, and are tested on their recognition of the sound (listening test) and knowledge of the works, context, composer, etc.

⁶ <https://www.nfhs.org/media/4029952/preliminary-testing-report-7-13-20.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0j5yJ5dpsCc4iGkOTxHc4u7qwxqiHrXTMKJYw4DF3CF-vUd-OFk7kaYUY>

- “Conductor as Producer” – Students on the Music Ed. advisement track create complete production plans for future concerts, to include Repertoire, Run Sheet, Stage Plots, Lighting, Sound, etc. This work lays the foundation for future LIVE concerts post-COVID.
- Chamber Music – Sub-divide ensembles, working on-campus in small groups if permissible, creating video collaborations if not. Have repertoire pre-chosen so it’s easy to “flip the switch”. A logical transition point, regardless of “health guidance system” status would be post-Fall Break.

PRIVATE LESSONS

From the start of Semester, all Private Teachers must be equipped and prepared to teach Face-to-Face AND On-line. This will mean having a Laptop or iPad available at all times for on-line teaching should a student need to stay away but is well enough to sing or play.

Only rooms equipped with Plexi-glass dividers may be used for Private Lessons.

Condition GREEN

- No restrictions (Business as usual)
- Fever, Coughing or Sneezing? STAY AWAY!!!

Condition YELLOW

- Students and Teachers are separated by a clear Plexiglas barrier (ca. 6’ tall, not ceiling-to-floor).
- Students and Teachers must be masked.
- If Accompanist is present, he/she must be masked.
- After every lesson, Instructor will disinfect all Chairs, Music Stands, Pianos and other “touch instruments”.
- For the safety of Instructor and Student, the option of receiving lesson remotely should be employed if Student or Teacher is unwell but well enough to play or sing. Student MUST notify Teacher 24 hours prior to scheduled lesson.
- Fever, Coughing or Sneezing? STAY AWAY!!!

Condition ORANGE

- No further changes.
- Fever, Coughing or Sneezing? STAY AWAY!!!

Condition RED

Campus is closed, all lessons given remotely.