

For Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra Summer Programs 2021

Washington State COVID Guidelines

On June 30 Washington state has reopened under the [Washington Ready](#) plan. All industry sectors previously covered by the Roadmap to Recovery or the Safe Start plan (with the limited exceptions noted below) may return to usual capacity and operations.

SYSO will follow guidelines that are in line with the State of Washington Department of Health [Washington Ready](#) plan, including:

- Social distancing between musicians is NOT required
- Limiting number of people who can be in a space (beyond the physical capacity of a given room) is NOT required
- Instrument covers are NOT required
- Health screenings upon entrance are NOT required

Included in the reopening guidelines are recommendations for youth serving organizations that SYSO will follow:

- **Continue to require face coverings/masks even for those who are fully vaccinated** (fully vaccinated is two weeks from completing the vaccine series).
- Encourage all eligible students (12 years and older) to be fully vaccinated
- Require all staff and teaching faculty to be fully vaccinated (unless they have a valid exemption)
- Require either proof of vaccination or negative COVID test (for ages 12 and older) from students upon the initiation of the program.
- Continue to clean and sanitize surfaces
- Provide adequate ventilation
- Require students, families, staff, and faculty to stay home when sick.
- Monitor students/staff/faculty for symptoms of COVID-19 and following all proper procedures if someone becomes sick
- Provide information to public health officials if there is a COVID-19 outbreak

Please see below for more detailed information related to the above-mentioned guidelines.

1) Face Coverings / Masks

Face coverings/masks are required by all participants (students, faculty, staff, and volunteers) even if they have been fully vaccinated per public health guidelines, until further notice.

Universal and correct use of cloth face coverings or masks helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 and is required for all SYSO personnel, students, and volunteers. There are specific

exceptions based on age, development, or disability outlined below. See the [Washington State Department of Health Guidance on Cloth Face Coverings](#) for more information.

All SYSO students, staff, faculty, and volunteers must wear cloth face coverings or an acceptable alternative (e.g., surgical mask) at SYSO rehearsals or performances. Participants are responsible for providing their own masks.

Face coverings or masks with ear loops are preferred over ones that tie around the neck or behind the head during physical activity to reduce the risk of injury. A cloth face covering is anything that completely covers the mouth and nose and fits securely on the sides of the face and under the chin. It should be made of two or more layers of tightly woven fabric with ties or straps that go around a person's head or behind their ears. A face shield with a drape can be used by people with developmental, behavioral, or medical conditions that prevent them from wearing a face covering.

For SYSO staff, faculty and volunteers, at least a cloth face coverings must be worn by every individual (except as described below) working or learning in shared, indoor airspace at the location.

Face coverings should not be worn by:

- Those under 2 years of age.
- Those with a disability that prevents them from comfortably wearing or removing a face covering.
- Those with certain respiratory conditions.
- Those who are deaf or hard of hearing, and those who provide instruction to such people, and use facial and mouth movements as part of communication.
- Those advised by a medical, legal, or behavioral health professional that wearing a face covering may pose a risk to that person.

Students may remove face coverings to eat and drink, when they need to in order to play their instrument, and when they can be physically distanced outside.

2) Testing and Vaccination

SYSO has required all staff, faculty and coaches to be vaccinated, and has required verification of vaccination status, which includes either:

- Vaccine card or photo of vaccine card
- Documentation from a health care provider
- State immunization information system record

SYSO highly encourages all students who are eligible to be vaccinated for their own safety and the safety of others.

Vaccinated students will need to provide verification that they are fully vaccinated using one of the three verification methods listed above.

Non-vaccinated students will need to produce a negative COVID-19 test result from a test taken no more than three day prior to the start of the program.

SYSO will follow all protocols of the performance venues. For Marrowstone Music Festival 2021, this includes the following:

Benaroya Hall

- Musicians and any personnel backstage or on stage need to show proof of vaccination or a current COVID-19 test in order to gain access. COVID-19 test must be taken no more than 72 hours prior to entering Benaroya Hall.
- Those entering the Artist Entrance will need to sign a log stating they are self-monitoring themselves for symptoms and possible exposure.
- Masks are still required. Masks can only be removed when playing an instrument that requires it.

Rainier Arts Center

- Masks must be worn by musicians, staff, and audience members. Masks can only be removed when playing an instrument that requires it.

Vaccines are not yet authorized for use in children under 12 years old. For these reasons, **we must continue to require students to wear masks** and to acknowledge the importance of reducing risk by abiding by all COVID-19 mitigation strategies.

3) Ventilation

Good ventilation and indoor air quality are important in reducing airborne exposure to respiratory pathogens, chemicals, and odors. In rehearsal spaces, SYSO will open windows as often as possible, and work the building owner to adjust the HVAC system to allow the maximum amount of outside air to enter the program space and increase air filtration.

4) Cleaning and Disinfecting

SYSO will follow all current infection control plans that are updated to reflect what is known about COVID-19. These include a process of cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting to remove, reduce and kill germs on surfaces. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulated sanitizers and disinfectants will be used in this process.

Surfaces will be treated before and after each program day and between each orchestra rehearsal or sectional period.

5) Physical Distancing

As of June 30 Washington state has reopened under the [Washington Ready](#) plan and **physical distancing is no longer required.**

Students may need to bring their own stands and students will share stands.

6) Addressing Suspected Cases of COVID-19

Any student, teacher, or staff who report COVID-19-like symptoms should stay home and not attend the program. If symptoms are detected during the program they must be immediately isolated from others and sent home as soon as feasible. Close contacts of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 must quarantine.

SYSO staff and faculty will monitor for the following symptoms not caused by another condition:

- Fever (100.4 Fahrenheit) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Recent loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

While waiting to leave SYSO, the individual with symptoms will be isolated in a designated isolation space. They must continue to wear a cloth face covering or mask. Anyone providing care or evaluation to the isolated individual must wear appropriate PPE.

Reporting Cases and Outbreaks and Working with Public Health

All cases of COVID-19 and outbreaks must be reported to the local health jurisdiction and SYSO and the general public must cooperate with public health authorities in the investigation of cases and outbreaks that may be associated with SYSO.

A COVID-19 outbreak is considered when the following have been met:

- There are two or more COVID-19 cases among students, faculty or staff
- The cases have a symptom onset or positive test result within a 14-day period of each other. The cases are epidemiologically linked.
- The cases do not share a household.

- The cases are not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during the investigation.

SYSO families will be notified immediately if a COVID outbreak has occurred in their student's orchestra or sectional group.

7) Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement

All program participants will sign the SYSO COVID-19 Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement in order to participate in-person rehearsals. Unvaccinated participants will acknowledge their increased level of risk based on their vaccination status.

Guidelines Informed by:

K-12 Schools 2021-2022 Guidelines as of May 13, 2021

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf>

Labor & Industries Requirements and Guidance for Preventing COVID-19 as of June 30, 2021

<https://www.lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F414-164-000.pdf>

Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestras Return to In-Person Rehearsals – Policies & Procedures as of April 2, 2021