



2022/2023 COVID-19 protocols: As an organization in the day of COVID, we take the safety and health of our artists, stage crew, volunteers and patrons seriously. As such, we continually monitor, review and access CDC and OSHA guidance against LOT practices for determination of when we shut down an entire production or cancel performances, what prevention steps we take before shutting down or canceling a production.

Prevention is the first step in avoiding impact to our productions. Prevention practices include:

1. Encourage and educate on vaccination (information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>), handwashing, sanitizing of surfaces and props, wearing of high quality face masks (as defined by the CDC, information is available at ([Use Masks to Slow the Spread of COVID-19 \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/masks.html), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/masks.html>) health and temperature checking, communicate expectations and hold accountable to reporting protocols, artists, stage crew, and volunteers.
2. Testing Protocol – artist, stage crew or volunteer expectations:
 - a. Symptomatic protocol:
 - i. If an artist, stage crew, or volunteer starts to experience COVID like symptoms, they should immediately notify a LOT board member:
 - ii. Immediately remove themselves from environment until such time as they can test for COVID.
 - iii. A rapid test will suffice for the initial test, if negative, the individual should take a second test, this one a PCR test, not a rapid test. If both, are negative, the individual can return to rehearsals and performances, but out of curtesy to others, should wear a mask, even when singing, in order to avoid spreading an illness that could impact productions.
 - iv. If the second test, the PCR test is positive, the individual must quarantine for 5 days,
 - v. if at the end of the 5 days, symptoms are diminishing and the individual has had no fever (without use of fever reducing medication) for a period of 24 hours, they can return to rehearsals/performances, but they must continue to mask, including while singing, and social distance for another 5 days.
 - vi. if the individual still has a fever or symptoms have not diminished, they will need to continue quarantine for another 5 days before being able to return to rehearsals/performances.

- b. If the first test is positive, the individual should continue to quarantine and test again two days later, if that test is also positive, the individual needs to remain in quarantine as indicated in steps 2. c above. If the second test comes back negative, and the individual symptoms are diminishing, without fever, the individual can return to rehearsals/performances but must continue to mask, even while singing, for the full 10-day period.
 - c. Exposure Testing Protocol/No Symptoms: If an artist, stage crew or volunteer is exposed to someone COVID positive. (Exposure/Contact is considered, being within 6 feet of each other for a period of 10 or more minutes.) they must:
 - i. Notify LOT board member of the exposure and date of exposure. If exposure was 4 or more days prior, the individual will need to provide a negative test before returning to rehearsals/performances. If they test positive, they move to symptomatic protocol 2. a) above. If negative, and at least 5 days from exposure, they can return to rehearsals and performances.
 - ii. If it has been less than 4 days, the individual needs to isolate/quarantine until day 4 at which time they can test following the steps above.
 - d. If your COVID-19 symptoms worsen, restart your isolation at day 0. Talk to a healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or when to end isolation.
 - e. 10-day masking requirement remains unless the artist can provide proof of two negative antigen tests, 48 hours apart. Upon proof of the two tests, the artist may remove their mask sooner than day 10 period.
3. Protocol – LOT responsibilities:
- a. If/when informed of contact with or COVID positive situation - remove the individual from the environment.
 - b. Contact trace to determine who all has come into contact with the individual in the three days prior to and day of testing positing. (Contact is considered, being within 6 feet of each other for a period of 10 or more minutes.)
 - i. Communicate with all individuals, individually, considered to have been in contact with the COVID positive individual, and start the clock for testing and quarantine protocol based on the known first day of contact and the need for testing. Refer to testing protocol 2. c) above, exposure, non-symptomatic.
 - ii. If not symptomatic and negative, notify individual(s) they can be around other people and sing as long as they mask and use the mask properly. Addition information for proper masking and mask can be found on the CDC website reflected in item one (1) above. Proper masking includes:
 - 1. Proper size, should fully cover nose and mouth even during communicating, talking/singing,
 - 2. If reusable, should be properly cleaned, stored and care for.

3. When in use, should fit snugly over nose and mouth, should not be pulled away from the face to speak or sing,
- iii. if it is determined a cast member, volunteer, board member, or crew contracted COVID from another member, then the whole cast will be required to be COVID, rapid tested before any practice or performance will resume.

Based on current covid numbers, we may require performers to mask at rehearsals and COVID test prior to any performance.

Free COVID testing resources can be found by visiting: [COVID.gov/tests - Free at-home COVID-19 tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests) (<https://www.covid.gov/tests/>), local health departments (information available here, https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/healthdirectories/index.html?s_cid=cstlts-gateway-b-07-2021-directories). Many insurance companies offer reimbursement for purchase of COVID home tests. Check with your insurance provider for details regarding coverage details.

When do we cancel a performance or shut down production. We will monitor COVID positive and COVID positive contact situations among all involved in practices and productions, if at any point:

- we have performers in quarantine awaiting testing due to COVID positive contact, leaving LOT without the performers needed to do a scheduled production, the performance will be canceled.
- If we have 20% or more individuals involved in putting on our productions, this includes artist, crew members, board members and volunteers, positive with COVID, production will be shut down for the balance of the run for the protection of all involved.