



Forging Theater and Community

# COVID PROTOCOLS FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2022

*Updated May 11, 2022*

We have broken down our COVID safety protocols to reflect the different ways to engage at Live Arts: volunteering, seeing a show, attending an event, or participating in educational programming. These procedures and policies are, of course, subject to change. If you have any questions, please reach out to the points of contact listed.

## **Here are some general guidelines:**

**If you are 18 or older, you will be required to present proof of full vaccination** upon entry (a vaccination card, photo of a card, or digital vaccine record). “Full vaccination” means you are two weeks past your second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines OR two weeks past your Johnson & Johnson vaccine. In accordance with latest guidance from the CDC, we also encourage you to stay up to date on your protection against the virus by getting booster shots when eligible. Exceptions to the vaccination requirement are detailed below.

**Masks are required while inside the building** unless performing on stage or enjoying concessions in designated areas. If you forget your mask, we will be happy to provide one for you at no charge! For further information about wearing a mask, please refer to "[Your Guide to Masks](#)" from the CDC.

**If you are feeling sick OR have potentially been exposed to COVID, please stay home.** If you were planning to see a show, we will happily exchange your ticket for another performance at no additional cost!

**If you receive a positive COVID test within 10 days of being inside the Live Arts building, please alert our staff** using the points of contact listed below.



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## VOLUNTEERS

*Point of contact: Liz Howard, Production Manager & Volunteer Coordinator  
(liz@livearts.org)*

**Volunteers 18 and older who would like to participate in the cast or on the production team of a Live Arts show** (i.e., actors, designers, stage managers, board operators, etc.) are required to provide proof of full vaccination and wear a mask while inside the building. Actors who are rehearsing or performing unmasked will be required to follow a volunteer self-testing procedure (provided by Live Arts) as necessary.

**Volunteers 18 and older who would like to participate in volunteer opportunities on a day-by-day basis** (i.e., scenic builds, light hangs, costume sewing sessions, etc.) must provide either proof of full vaccination or, if unable to get vaccinated, proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of the volunteer opportunity or a negative antigen test within six hours of the volunteer opportunity. **Masks are optional during set builds, but should still be worn when entering and exiting the building.** For PCR testing sites in central Virginia, please refer to this [directory](#) provided by the Virginia Department of Health.

**Volunteers under the age of 18 are *not required* to provide proof of full vaccination, however vaccination is strongly recommended.** Masks are required regardless of vaccination status. *Unvaccinated actors will not be permitted to rehearse or perform unmasked.*

## AUDIENCE AND GUESTS

*Point of Contact: Anne Hunter, Executive Director (anne@livearts.org)*

### ATTENDING A SHOW OR SPECIAL EVENT:

**Audience members and guests 18 and older are required to provide either proof of full vaccination** (a vaccination card, photo of a card, or digital vaccine record) or, if



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unable to get vaccinated, proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of the performance or a negative antigen test within six hours of the performance. Masks are required regardless of vaccination status. For PCR testing sites in central Virginia, please refer to this [directory](#) provided by the Virginia Department of Health.

We encourage you to take a photo of your vaccination card or take advantage of the [COVID-19 Vaccination Record Request Portal](#) on the Virginia Department of Health website. When you arrive at Live Arts, you can look up this portal on your phone or ask to use a laptop provided by Live Arts. This method is for individuals who were vaccinated in Virginia and used a cell phone when registering. It isn't foolproof, but it's a good resource to try in a pinch!

**Audience members and guests between the ages of 5 and 18 are not required to provide proof of vaccination** upon entry, however vaccination is strongly recommended. Masks are required regardless of vaccination status.

### **CONCESSIONS:**

Concessions are available at the third floor Becker Bar. You are not required to wear a mask while enjoying concessions on the third floor or in designated areas, but please be respectful and mask up otherwise. The third floor windows will remain open to bring in fresh air and maintain a well-ventilated space.

No concessions (except water) are permitted inside the Founders Theater or Gibson Theater at this time.

### **TICKET EXCHANGES:**

If you are feeling sick or have potentially been exposed to COVID, please stay home. If you were planning to see a show, we will happily exchange your ticket for another performance at no additional cost. Just give us a call at 434-977-4177 or email Darryl in the Box Office at [darryl@livearts.org](mailto:darryl@livearts.org).



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If you forget or misplace your proof of vaccination, we will happily reschedule your ticket for another performance.

## COMFORT-LEVEL STICKERS:

To help make sure everyone feels as safe and comfortable as possible while visiting Live Arts, we offer colored stickers to be worn while attending a show or event.

**Green** means “I’m comfortable with a hug or handshake.”

**Yellow** means “I’m happy to give you an elbow bump, but let’s keep some space.”

**Red** means “I feel more comfortable maintaining six feet of distance.”

These stickers are optional, but we ask everyone to please be respectful of patron spacing and take note of the colored stickers worn by other audience members. Let’s make sure everyone enjoys their experience in the theater!

## EDUCATION

*Point of Contact: Ti Ames, Education Director (ti@livearts.org)*

**All students 18 and older must provide proof of full vaccination** to attend classes or workshops at Live Arts. Masks are required when entering the Live Arts building, but certain classes will not require masks during class (dependent on the instructor). Distancing will be maintained to the extent possible, and the classroom will be well-ventilated. Mask breaks outside on the fourth floor terrace can be taken as needed with permission from the instructor.

**Vaccination is strongly recommended for students ages 5 to 17, but not required.** Masks must be worn regardless of vaccination status. Distancing will be maintained to



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the extent possible, and the classroom will be well-ventilated. Mask breaks outside on the fourth floor terrace will be permitted at the instructor's discretion.

## FACILITY UPDATES

We appreciate your patience and cooperation. We're also doing our part to keep you safe while you are visiting:

1. **We have enhanced cleaning protocols in place**, including air purifiers and sanitation stations on every floor.
2. **We installed a hands-free card reader** at the Box Office and concessions stands.
3. **We have a certified COVID Compliance Officer (CCO)** present at every public gathering. The CCO ensures that our facility is adhering to the protocols we have put in place to keep volunteers, staff, and patrons safe while they are in the building.
4. **We meet weekly to discuss our protocols and make necessary changes.** We understand that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to making theater safely following a global pandemic. We continue to make the health and safety of our volunteers, audiences, staff, and guests our top priority.

## WHAT INFORMS OUR DECISIONS

We want to guard the health and safety of our Live Arts family and the most vulnerable members of the greater Charlottesville community. **If you or someone you know is vaccine hesitant**, we highly recommend [The Vaccine Equity Cooperative](#), which vets and compiles resources around COVID-19 vaccines and public health practices, with specific focus on supporting BIPOC communities.



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**We base our evolving safety protocols on several factors:**

- Guidelines and updates from the CDC, Virginia Department of Health, and Blue Ridge Health District
- Numbers of COVID infections and hospitalizations across Albemarle and surrounding counties
- Safety protocols adopted by Charlottesville Public Schools, Albemarle County Public Schools, and other educational institutions in our area
- Feedback from our patrons, volunteers, staff, and supporters
- Safety protocols adopted by theaters across the country

We will continue monitoring trends and guidance, and we will refine our safety protocols in response to the course of the variants. **The procedures and policies outlined above are, of course, subject to change.** Please check [livearts.org/covid](https://livearts.org/covid) for up-to-date information before visiting the theater.

**If you are planning to come into the building but find that you are feeling sick or cannot comply with our safety protocols for any reason, we will issue you a credit for use at a future performance or a full refund upon request.**

## **POINTS OF CONTACT**

**Anne Hunter** | Executive Director | [anne@livearts.org](mailto:anne@livearts.org)

**Liz Howard** | Volunteer Coordinator & Production Manager | [liz@livearts.org](mailto:liz@livearts.org)

**Ti Ames** | Education Director | [ti@livearts.org](mailto:ti@livearts.org)