

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

Updated September 1, 2022

Amidst the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, Silhouette Stages continues to prioritize the health and well-being of our Patrons, Volunteers, and the community. We are committed to providing a safe, enjoyable theatrical experience for everyone.

Silhouette Stages reviews guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), the [Maryland Department of Health \(MDH\)](#), and the [Howard County Health Department \(HCHD\)](#), along with protocols required by our rented rehearsal and performance venues.

THIS COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME AS NATIONAL AND LOCAL GUIDELINES ARE UPDATED IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTED BY THIS COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN ARE NOT AN ABSOLUTE PROTECTION AGAINST CONTRACTING THE VIRUS. PATRONS AND VOLUNTEERS ASSUME THEIR OWN RISK BY ENTERING THE FACILITY. ANY PERSON WHO DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE POLICIES BELOW WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER OR REMAIN IN THE FACILITY.

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Definitions

In this COVID-19 Safety Plan the following terms are used:

“Patron” means any person attending a performance or event at Silhouette Stages, including those who purchased tickets and those who received complimentary tickets.

“Production” means the entire process of an event, play, or musical, from the first rehearsal to the final performance and set strike.

“Vaccination” (sometimes referred to as “full vaccination”) means that 14 calendar days have passed since receiving the second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or that 14 days have passed since the sole dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine; booster shots, while strongly encouraged, are not currently required.

“Volunteer” means any person participating in a Silhouette Stages event, including members of the cast, production team, backstage crew, and those participating in set builds, set decoration, and front of house activities.

Health and Safety Upgrades

Enhanced Cleaning:

All facilities will be thoroughly cleaned between every event, including rehearsals and performances, with special attention to high-touch points and use of disinfectant wipes or spray that eliminates up to 99.9% of harmful bacteria and viruses, including the COVID-19 virus.

Hand Sanitizer Stations:

Multiple hand sanitizer stations will be available at all facilities during all Silhouette Stages events. Patrons and Volunteers are encouraged to frequently use hand sanitizer, especially when hand washing is not an option.

Portable Air Filtration:

Silhouette Stages will be using two portable air purifiers with HEPA filters during all indoor auditions, rehearsals, and backstage during performances.

Upgraded Ventilation Systems:

Slayton House uses UV Fans in the Theatre and Dance Studio and has portable air purifier fans with UV light filters running 24/7 and will be placed in higher traffic areas during events. The HVAC systems are currently using MERV 10-rated filters and have been adjusted to increase air turnover (fresh air) rate by 100%.

Universal Rules for All Events

Masks are required at all times, except for members of the cast actively rehearsing or performing.

Masks are always required for every Patron and Volunteer, regardless of vaccination status, in all indoor spaces, including at auditions, rehearsals, set builds, and performances. The only exception is actors may remove their masks while actively rehearsing and performing on stage.

Per CDC guidelines, masks should cover your nose and mouth, be secured under your chin, and should fit snugly against the sides of your face. Please see the CDC's guide to masks for recommended face coverings. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>)

Many people hold strong personal feelings about masking. However, the Silhouette Stages Board of Directors has implemented this masking requirement for the safety of our Patrons and Volunteers. Any Patron or Volunteer who refuses to wear a mask or fails to remain respectful to Silhouette Stages volunteers tasked with enforcement of this masking requirement, whether verbal, physical, or electronic, will not be tolerated and will be grounds for immediate removal from the facility.

This masking requirement will be re-evaluated by the Silhouette Stages Board of Directors in October 2022.

Proof of Vaccination is required for Patrons and Volunteers.

Patrons and Volunteers must display proof of Vaccination prior to entry in all indoor spaces, including at all auditions, rehearsals, set builds, and performances. Proof may be (1) by showing digital images on a smartphone, or (2) by showing a physical copy of the Vaccination card. For information on vaccines and vaccination sites: <https://www.marylandvax.org>

What about Patrons attending multiple performances of the same Production?

Patrons must display proof of Vaccination prior to entry at each individual performance.

What about Volunteers participating on multiple days?

Volunteers need only display proof of Vaccination prior to their first participation in a Production; such proof is sufficient for the extent of that Production. For example, a person attending auditions showing proof of Vaccination does not need to show proof again during call-backs, rehearsals, or performances.

Unvaccinated Patrons, including children ages 5 and older, must provide a negative COVID test result.

Patrons who are unable to provide proof of Vaccination, including children ages 5 and older, must provide proof of a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours prior to attending an indoor performance. Providing a negative test in lieu of Vaccination is an option only for Patrons, not Volunteers.

What tests are accepted?

Only COVID-19 PCR tests will be accepted. Rapid or Antigen test results will not be accepted.

What qualifies as a negative result?

Your test result must show negative or no evidence of a COVID-19 infection, your name, and the date and time indicating the test was taken less than 48 hours before your performance start time.

How do I show proof of my negative PCR test?

Patrons should bring a digital photo or printed copy of the negative test result and be prepared to show a staff member upon entry to the theater.

What about children ages 4 and younger?

Children ages 4 and younger are not required to be tested prior to arrival; however, it is strongly encouraged that parents conduct a rapid at-home test and closely monitor for COVID-19 symptoms prior to attending a performance. Masks are required at all times.

Any Patron or Volunteer exhibiting COVID-like symptoms during an event will be asked to leave.

Silhouette Stages will strongly encourage them to be tested and/or consult with a doctor, and the individual must follow CDC recommendations for any quarantine, isolation, or testing requirements. Silhouette Stages may require proof of a negative COVID test prior to returning.

Before The Event

FOR PATRONS:

I am the Patron who purchased tickets for my group – what should I know?

It is the responsibility of the ticket purchaser to communicate the requirements of this entire COVID-19 Safety Plan, particularly the proof of Vaccination, to everyone for whom you have purchased tickets. By purchasing tickets, you accept the requirements of this COVID-19 Safety Plan. Shortly before your performance date, you will receive a performance reminder email with the most up-to-date version of this important information. Please be aware that only the ticket purchaser will receive these emails, so be sure to share these communications with everyone in your party so they are aware of what to expect.

If you are sick, please stay home.

If you or someone in your group doesn't feel well, has exhibited any symptoms of COVID-19 in the previous 14 days, or has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the previous 14 days, please stay home. As a reminder, symptoms include a fever of 100.4 or higher, cough, loss of smell or taste, runny nose, shortness of breath, and sore throat. If you have to stay home, see the next topic...

What is Silhouette Stages' flexible ticket exchange policy?

If you do not feel well on the day of your performance, please contact silhouetestages@gmail.com for assistance exchanging your tickets for a different performance of the same production. Per our Ticket Policy, refunds are not available.

During The Event

FOR PATRONS

Volunteers Are There to Help

Volunteers and Board Members are available throughout the performance to monitor everyone's safety and to assist in any way they can. If you feel uncomfortable at any time, please speak to one of our friendly volunteers who will assist you.

Please Respect the Rules

The rules and restrictions contained in this COVID Safety Plan have been created for the safety of **all** Patrons and Volunteers. Anyone who does not follow the rules or behaves in a manner disrespectful to our Patrons and Volunteers will not be allowed to enter or remain in the venue.

Arrival Times

Please arrive early for your performance to allow extra time for parking, ticket scanning, and vaccination checks. Once you have entered the facility, we ask that you move to find your seat to avoid crowding in the lobby.

Keep Your Seat

We strongly encourage you to stay in your seat, unless you are using the restrooms or need to leave the facility.

Occupancy Capacities

Small spaces such as restrooms and elevators may have a posted maximum capacity to avoid overcrowding. Please respect the posted occupancy limits.

Seating Configuration

Slayton House is currently seating up to full capacity for all performances. This means that there will not be physical distancing within the venue, and you may have patrons sitting directly next to you, in front of you, and behind you.

Food & Beverage Service

Food and beverage service is permitted; however, Silhouette Stages may limit the concessions to water only or implement other limitations. Details of the available concessions will be provided to Patrons at completion of online ticket purchase and in the pre-show emails. Water bottle refilling stations and small water bottles will be available. Please visit our website for updates on available concessions for each Production.

After The Event

Exit the Building Promptly through Designated Exits

In order to avoid gathering of crowds indoors, Patrons and Volunteers are encouraged to promptly exit the facility at the end of the event. For performances, Patrons should exit Slayton House through the side lobby doors or as instructed by the House Manager and ushers; Volunteers, including cast members, should exit Slayton House through the main lobby doors and are encouraged to meet their guests outside of Slayton House.

Contact Tracing

If we are notified of a positive COVID-19 diagnosis of a Patron or Volunteer, we will promptly alert the appropriate health authorities for contact tracing and do our best to contact those Patrons and Volunteers who were in contact with that individual at that event.

Share Your Feedback

As the COVID-19 pandemic is a dynamic, frequently changing situation, we appreciate all feedback from our valued Patrons and Volunteers. Please contact us to let us know what you liked and what could be improved regarding our COVID-19 Safety Plan. Silhouette Stages' goal is to ensure that **everyone** feels safe and has an enjoyable theatrical experience.

PATRON ADVISORY

COVID-19 Safety Plan

Updated September 1, 2022

To ensure the health and security of our patrons, performers, and volunteers, Silhouette Stages has updated its COVID-19 Safety Plan. Two of our key requirements are:

1. Proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 is required for all Patrons ages 5 and older to attend a performance. <https://www.marylandvax.org>

Children ages 5 and older and patrons with a medical condition or a closely held religious belief that prevents vaccination must provide proof of a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken less than 48 hours before the performance.

Children ages 4 and under are not required to provide proof of a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test, however it is strongly encouraged that parents conduct a rapid at-home test prior to arrival and to closely monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.

2. Masks are required at all times for Patrons and Volunteers of all ages while inside all Silhouette Stages' facilities. The only exception is for members of the cast while actively performing on stage.

**Performance ticket holders who do not comply with these policies will not be admitted.
Please see our full COVID Safety Plan for additional details.**