

## Spring 2022 University of Mississippi Department of Music Protocols and Resources

### February 24, 2022

This document contains health and safety protocols that must be followed and maintained. It is impossible for us to eliminate all risks from infection, but we are doing everything we can to mitigate risks associated with infection from COVID-19. We will continue to ***update the semester's protocols in response to the pandemic***, and regulations set by university, local, and state authorities.

The COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States are ***highly effective*** at preventing severe disease and death. All faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to get vaccinated and boosted **if eligible**. Vaccination is proven to help lessen the severity of the symptoms of COVID-19 and to keep more people out of the hospital. And, initial data suggest COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters help to bolster protection against Omicron. The pharmacy at the Student Health Center (662-915-5279) offers FREE vaccines on a walk-up basis, no appointment necessary. The pharmacy is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Thursdays when it closes at 4 p.m. Find out more about on-campus and off-campus **vaccinations**.

**You are encouraged to get tested each week.** Free symptomatic or asymptomatic **COVID-19 testing at the University-Oxford Depot** on campus is available Monday through Saturday. To schedule your test, text "2020" to 833-991-3009 OR **click on this link**. Free symptomatic and asymptomatic COVID testing is also available from the Mississippi Department of Health, Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Oxford Conference Center (102 Ed Perry Blvd). You must have an appointment, which can schedule at **covidschedule.umc.edu**. Other health clinics in town that are offering free testing can be found at this link: **<https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/where-can-i-get-tested-in-oxford/>**.

### Music Building

- The university requires masks in **all instructional and healthcare settings (the activity, not the location, determines this requirement)**. In music classes, you are strongly encouraged to **wear surgical, KN95 or KF94 masks**. Research indicates that the better the mask, the better the protection with the best masks available for public use being the KN95 and KF94 masks.
- **While singing, single layer cloth-only masks are not permitted.** Masks should cover the face adequately even when opening the mouth - fitting snugly against the sides of the face without any gaps.
- Exceptions to the mask requirement are limited to time spent in **single-occupancy offices with a closed door (not in practice rooms)**, **wind/brass playing (see below) or when testing is involved.**
- We will utilize space in the music building in a controlled manner, as well as green spaces near the music building. All activity in music classrooms (including outdoor) and performance spaces must be planned and reserved ahead of time.
- The Conference Room may be used as a quiet individual work space when not in use for scheduled classes and meetings.
- Social distance whenever possible.

- The main music, band, and choral offices are intended for business and should not be used as places to hang out.
- Hand sanitizing stations are placed in prominent locations around the building.
- Hand washing - Everyone should wash their hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds (entering and exiting campus spaces, before eating, after blowing their nose, coughing sneezing or touching their face). People should avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Eating is **not** permitted in common areas throughout the music building.
- Wipe stations are located in or around classrooms.
- Interior doors should remain open as much as possible.
- Follow posted instructions for **cleaning pianos with peroxide**.

### Indoor Music Making

- All Woodwind/brass players, regardless of vaccination status, **may lower their mask while playing.**
- Bell covers **will be used for ensemble playing and optional in all other settings.**
- Water key etiquette must be maintained. Drape water valve and collect condensation in a towel.
- Instrument bells should be directed away from others as much as possible.
- Social distance as much as possible.
- All other members of the class or ensemble will remain masked at all times.
- **Larger ensembles** should social distance as much as possible and clear the space (air out) for **10 minutes** after one hour of playing.
- **All classroom/rehearsal singing must remain masked.**
- **All performers (faculty, student, guest),** regardless of vaccination status, wanting to perform **without mitigation** must provide documentation of a **negative test result** that is **less than 48 hours old** (Antigen or PCR) or proof of a positive COVID test within the last 90 days. This approach also applies to any rehearsals related to the event.
- Audience members are **strongly encouraged to remain masked at all UM Music events.** Faculty, students, and staff should follow UM protocols - masks in **all instructional** and healthcare settings (the activity, not the location, determines this requirement).

### Attendance and COVID-19

- Get tested if you are symptomatic and contact Student Health (662)915-7274 or Employee Health (662)915-6550 immediately. Visit <https://healthcenter.olemiss.edu/covid-19-faqs/> for more information.
- **If you test positive, follow Isolation guidelines:** <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/campus-ready/quarantine-and-isolation/>
- Students should immediately contact instructors if they are in isolation or quarantine.

### University Reminders:

- Students, Staff, and Faculty should use the Symptom Checker and follow general health and safety protocols found here: <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu>

- Any compliance issues related to protocols can be found here: <https://conflictresolution.olemiss.edu/covidupdates/> or you may report to the appropriate Chair, Dean or Supervisor.
- Guidelines for Isolation and Quarantine: <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/campus-ready/quarantine-and-isolation/>
- **Students must report positive COVID tests to Student Health and employees must report positive tests to Employee Health, regardless of where the test was performed:** <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/report/>
- The expectations that are outlined in this document are in addition to the University of Mississippi's protocols <https://coronavirus.olemiss.edu/campus-ready/>. This document is intended for all members of the UM Music community (faculty, staff, students), as well as contractors, vendors, visitors and guests - anyone who needs to use the music building.