



*Where Women Take The Stage*

## COVID-19 Safety Policies and Procedures for Rehearsals and Filming on the Premises at Strand Theater Company

- All cast and crew members will be required to sign a COVID-19 Safety Acknowledgement Waiver on the first day they are working in the theater with others. This Waiver will be made available in advance so all may read it before signing.
- Any artist who can receive the COVID-19 vaccination is **STRONGLY** encouraged to do so, however, having this vaccine does not excuse anyone from following the policies and procedures in this document. We are not safe until we're ALL safe.
- Only artists and designers who are willing to be tested frequently for COVID-19 will be eligible to be cast in any Strand Theater Company show during the pandemic or until guidance from the CDC and/or WHO says it is safe to congregate in public places.
- Temperature Check is required at entrance to the theater space. The stage manager or safety director will use a temporal thermometer to perform the checks. Any person presenting with a fever of over 99.4 will not be admitted to rehearsal.
- At entrance to the theater space, the stage manager or safety director will need to ask the following COVID-19 Protocol Questions: *In the past 24 to 48 hours have you experienced any of the following symptoms outside of pre-existing conditions: fever, cough, sore throat, chills, shortness of breath, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell, abnormal headache, dizziness, diarrhea, vomiting, or general malaise? In the past 24-48 hours have you encountered anyone who has been diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19?*
- Individuals who fall within any of the categories below should not engage in events and/or other face to face activities as it is a danger to themselves and others. By attending, you certify that you do not fall into any of the following categories:
  - Individuals who currently or within the past fourteen (14) days have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, among others.
  - Individuals who believe that they may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are not yet cleared as non-contagious by state or local public health authorities or the health care team responsible for their treatment.

- No more than 10 people may be in the theater space at one time and social distancing of 6 feet must be always practiced. The less people we can have in the space at one time, the better. For filming days, if more than 10 people are required inside the theater, Strand Management must be informed ahead of time.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided at the Strand space. This includes, but is not limited to: KN95 face masks, face shields, nitrile gloves, antibacterial wipes, hand sanitizer, hand soap, and hot water.
- New data from the CDC and the WHO states that “double masking” is the preferred method to combat newly found strains of the COVID-19 virus. Strand Theater Company highly encourages all members of the production to wear a KN95 mask or two filtered cloth masks for optimal safety. KN95 masks will be provided for the cast and crew at the theater. Masks MUST always be worn in the theater space. No exceptions.
- If there is any blocking that requires touch between actors, gloves should be worn during the rehearsal process. After filming without gloves, hand washing, or the use of sanitizer is highly encouraged.
- Used surfaces in the theater must be disinfected after each rehearsal. Production Crew will make the decision on who is responsible for this and relate that information to Strand management.
- An air purifier with a HEPA filter designed for a 1000sq ft space will be provided and should be plugged in and always used while not filming. The air purifier can be unplugged during filming to eliminate the white noise it creates in the background.
- Communal and bathroom spaces will be cleaned daily while the theater is in use.
- When the time comes for actors to be unmasked, all other production staff and cast in the building will need to wear both masks and face shields.
- Cast and crew are discouraged from the practice of communal meals in the theater space as it requires being unmasked. Those who require meals, snacks, etc., on long rehearsal/filming days should bring their own food and should not eat in groups. The director, stage manager, and safety director should plan for mealtimes in advance. The cast and crew should take their breaks as socially distantly as possible (spread out through the theater and outside - in the lobby, the green room, cars, etc.). We know this is not fun, but it is the safest possible plan.
- No sharing of clothing, make-up, food, drink, or ANY items that could aid in the spread of airborne germs.
- Outside Quarantining Behavior – In addition to regular COVID-19 testing, to be eligible for hire by Strand Theater Company, artists must agree to practice self-quarantining behaviors outside of rehearsal. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

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- Limiting outside tasks and errands as much as possible. When this is not possible, proper use of PPE when performing tasks such as grocery shopping, doctor's appointments, etc.
- No eating in restaurants or other public venues.
- No social gatherings of any kind outside of your quarantine/production pod.
- No seeing anyone outside of your quarantine/production pod and limiting visits with those in your pod during the duration of the process.
- Safety procedures and contact tracing at places of work must be always followed.
- A good rule of thumb – if it seems like a risky behavior, don't participate!

#### References

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/need-to-know.html>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>