The Studio: Lessons and Sessions COVID-19 Protocol

We know the coming year is going to be a challenge. There is a lot of apprehension surrounding COVID-19. Our goal at The Studio is to not complicate things or make things worse – but instead to hopefully be a musical oasis in a sea of uncertainty.

We also want to keep kids safe; so below are the protocols The Studio is putting into place for private lessons and Studio Sessions. We've broken them down into several categories to keep them specific. The first list, titled 'Studio Health & Safety,' applies to all activities at The Studio.

Studio Health & Safety

These are the overall protocols we are implementing for all activities at The Studio.

- If you have come into contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, notify us immediately.
- If you are returning from vacation or somewhere listed on the CDC warning list, we ask that you not attend class for 14 days, or until it is confirmed that you are not infected.
- Our waiting area is closed to all parents, guardians, and siblings.
- Upon arrival, students are asked to wait in the car or outside until their instructor greets them at the door to take their temperature.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available.
- High traffic areas, including restrooms, will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- All teachers will wear facemasks.
- Air purifiers will be on and working in every room.
- Everyone entering the building will have their temperature checked, and will be asked to use hand sanitizer or wash hands with soap and water. Anyone with a temperature above 100.4 will be sent home, asked to monitor symptoms, and contact their physician.
- If a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, a note from a doctor is needed before returning to The Studio.
- If in the unfortunate case of not being able to continue with in-person activities, activities will continue online if available.

Studio Lesson Health & Safety (Instrumental)

These protocols are specific to private instrument lessons. All of the above Studio Health & Safety Protocols apply as well.

- Upon arrival, students are asked to wait in the car or outside until their instructor greets them at the door to take their temperature.
- Students will be asked to use hand sanitizer prior to playing on any Studio instrument.
- All pianos, chair backs, benches, microphone stands, and any other equipment in practice rooms will be wiped down prior to each lesson.
- Teachers and students will wear facemasks at all times.
- Air purifiers will be on in every room.
- Rooms will be cleaned at the end of every lesson day.

Studio Lesson Health & Safety (Voice)

These protocols are specific to private voice lessons. All of the above Studio Health & Safety Protocols apply as well.

We are treating in-person voice lessons differently than any other lesson. Singers spit more than pianists (we've heard ©) and in order to keep kids safe, we've added extra precautions.

- Upon arrival, students are asked to wait in the car or outside until their instructor greets them at the door to take their temperature.
- All voice lessons will be in larger rooms, ensuring a greater social distance. No smaller rooms will be used for voice.
- Where applicable, doors will stay open to ensure proper air flow.
- Where applicable, plexiglass barriers will be placed between teacher and student. For example, in our larger practice rooms, a barrier will be used. For lessons taking place in our rehearsal space, or Studio B, the room is large enough where a barrier is not needed.
- Students will wear a mask upon entering the room, but then will not be required to wear one while singing.
- Teachers may choose not to wear a mask, but students have the right to ask teachers to wear one if requested.
- All pianos, chair backs, benches, microphone stands, plexiglass barriers, and any other equipment in practice rooms will be wiped down prior to each lesson.
- Air purifiers will be on in every room.

Studio Session Health & Safety (Acting, Musical Theater, Voice)

- Upon arrival, students are asked to wait in the car or outside until their instructor greets them at the door to take their temperature. Students will then go straight to a designated spot in the Studio Rehearsal Space or Studio B. Socially distant areas will be clearly marked.
- All class sizes will be capped at a maximum number, based on the space the room will allow.
- Materials will not be shared.
- Masks are required for all students and teachers, but may be removed for certain socially distant exercises and activities.
- Singers will be seated in chairs, set up in staggered rows, so no singer is singing directly next to or directly behind another.
- Movement will be taught in a socially distant fashion, with taped off areas on the floor to keep kids safely apart from one another.

In-Person Lesson and Studio Session Procedures

- Students should arrive about 5-10 minutes before lesson or Studio Session time, wait either outside or in a car until their instructor arrives at the door to greet them.
- For Sessions, we will 'check-in' kids outdoors (weather permitting) or at our counter. We ask that those checking in wear masks and keep a good social distance from one another.
- Weather permitting, doors will be propped open.
- One parent of children under 8 is allowed to enter the building to drop a child off and we ask that the same parent wait in the parking lot for the duration of the first week's lesson or Session in case of separation or behavior issues. The parent must wear a mask or face covering at all times within The Studio.
- Everyone entering, whether parent or student, will have their temperature taken.
- Everyone entering, whether parent or student, will be asked to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands with soap and water.
- During lessons and Studio Sessions, parents or family members can wait socially distant outside, or in a car.
- After a lesson or Studio Session is finished, the teacher can meet parents at the door and see the student out. Parents are not allowed to come in and wait.

Cleaning Protocols

- Studio A & B, the front counter, practice rooms, the Studio Rehearsal Space, and each bathroom will be supplied with either hand sanitizer or soap and water.
- EPA approved cleaning supplies will be used.
- Studios A & B, practice rooms, and the Studio Rehearsal Space will be outfitted with air purifiers.
- All high-contact surfaces, lesson rooms, and bathrooms will be wiped down at the end of every day.
- All rooms in The Studio will be professionally cleaned twice a month.