



## STUDIO STAGE 2: HYBRID MODEL | SAFETY GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

### PRIOR TO STAGE 2 RE-OPENING MSA UPDATES INCLUDE:

- Cleaning frequency and procedures to include the following:
  - EPA approved cleaning solutions
  - Additional cleaning staff during busy hours
  - Daily evening cleaning of the entire facility
- Air quality improvements
  - We have conducted an air quality inspection of our facility with a licensed contractor that included a review of our HVAC system
  - MSA is following all recommendations from the inspection.
  - When possible, doors will be opened for fresh air.
- Clear plastic sneeze guards around the front desk area.
- Added Equipment
  - All seven studios equipped with: 55in TV screen, lpad with additional accessories
  - Additional portable barres to allow for social distancing
- Clear outdoor signage at the entrance/exits as required by Virginia guidelines for reopening.
- Clear indoor signage for social distancing guidelines and MSA safety policy reminders.
- Clear markings on studio floors to designate 10 foot dance zones.
- Adjustments to class size and traffic flow to abide by social distancing guidelines.

### PRIOR TO FIRST DAY OF CLASS

- For those participating in the hybrid model, a signed waiver will be required. Waivers will be updated as government mandates and guidance shift during the pandemic recovery phases.
- MSA administration will notify families of any cancelled classes (due to low enrollment) no later than August 21st.
- MSA will provide rotating group assignments, studio assignments (for entrance/exit information) and more details/instructions once we receive and compile training preference responses.

### IN-PERSON DETAILS (YOUTH DANCE/HOMESCHOOL PROGRAM and SELECT ADULT DANCE CLASSES)

- MULTIPLE ENTRANCE/EXITS
  - All classes/studios will have an assigned entrance/exit to limit interaction.
- TEMPERATURE SCREENINGS AT THE DOOR
  - Faculty/Staff will have their temperature checked at the door by a no-touch thermometer prior to working or teaching every day.
  - All students will have their temperature checked at the door by a no-touch thermometer and if temperature is > 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, the student will not be allowed to participate in person. Parents are asked to not leave the property until the child is admitted into class.

- CLOSED AREAS/LIMITED ACCESS
  - Dressing rooms will be closed to allow for social distancing and frequent cleaning. Students will need to come dressed in dance attire.
  - Lobbies will be restricted to faculty/staff and students who may be transferring between consecutive classes to limit traffic and exposure. Parents of students ages 5+ will not be permitted in the building. Early childhood parents who want to observe a class may do so via the Zoom class links with cameras off and muted to limit distractions.
  - Restrooms will remain open. However, we ask that students use the restroom at home when possible and only use restrooms for emergencies. Blower-style hand dryers will be deactivated and replaced with paper.
  - Students with breaks will not be allowed to wait inside the building. We apologize for the inconvenience, but in order to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing, we must reserve the limited capacity in our facility for those in training.
  
- FACE COVERINGS
  - Masks are required at all times inside the studio for faculty, staff, and students. Face shields are optional but are not a substitute for masks. Students should reduce the intensity of their dancing if they are feeling short of breath, lightheaded or dizzy.
  - Faculty will modify training as necessary.
  - Students are asked to bring multiple masks to class(es). If your mask becomes wet from sweat or heavy breathing, change it out for a clean, dry mask. We suggest bringing two bags for your masks: one marked "CLEAN" and the second marked "DIRTY" for used masks.
  - For specific mask recommendations for dancers, check out this article: <https://www.dancemagazine.com/workout-mask-2646401321.html?rebellitem=1#rebellitem1>
  - \*Please see detailed mask policy/exceptions below.
  
- SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS
  - Floors and barres will be clearly marked with social distance measurements. Dancers will be 10 feet apart. Should guidelines change, we will adapt the distance between dancers.
  - To maintain the required 10 feet distance, the number of students allowed to be in-person will be limited to 1/3 of the class.
  - Should guidelines change, we will adjust the in-person class limits.
  - Activity that requires direct or indirect contact will not be permitted: partnering, touching the same equipment/props, or traveling across the floor as a group.
  
- POSITIVE CASE ACTION PLAN
  - MSA will halt in-person operations immediately and notify all faculty, staff, and parents.
  - MSA will shift to 100% virtual training immediately.
  - MSA will notify the Virginia Health Department and follow recommendations which may include:
    - Contact tracing. To protect patient privacy, contacts are only informed that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. The identity of the positive case will remain confidential.
    - Additional Cleaning Procedures
    - Length of Closure

- WHAT TO DO/EXPECT “THE DAY OF” YOUR IN-PERSON CLASS
  - Take your temperature at home and monitor symptoms. If your temperature is >100.4 or you are experiencing other symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea), please stay home and participate virtually. We would like to avoid sending kids home after they arrive.
  - Please wait in your car until 5 minutes prior to class at which time you may line up on designated marks six feet apart outside the entrance to your assigned studio and wait for a faculty member to open the door.
  - We will be organizing a room parent volunteer schedule (rotating basis) to assist teachers with the check-in/check-out process.
  - Students should bring only dance shoes required for that particular day (in a small bag if needed, water bottle, and extra masks.
  - Studios will have a designated area for personal belongings.
  - The water fountains will be off limits.
  - No barefeet. Please wear shoes or socks to all classes.
  - Faculty will use the first few minutes of class for students to enter safely.
  - Hand sanitizer stations will be at the entrance of each studio to use before and after class.
  - Students will head straight to their “dance zone” upon entrance into the studio.
  - Faculty will use the last few minutes of class for students to exit/transition safely.
  - Parents are asked to arrive 5 minutes prior to the end of class for student pick-up.
  - Students with consecutive classes will be able to remain in the facility and transition through the lobbies to another studio for their next class.

#### **PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS**

- Will remain 100% virtual as social distancing is not possible in the music rooms.
- Students will have the option to use a music room (alone) for their lesson during their “in-person” weeks if between two classes. They will need a personal device to connect virtually with their teacher who will be teaching from home.

#### **STUDIO THEATER CLASSES (Acting 1-4)**

- Will remain 100% virtual.
- Students will have the option to use a studio during their “in-person” weeks if unable to return home from another Saturday class in time to attend virtually. MSA will live stream the teacher to allow for participation.

## MASK POLICY

This has been a very difficult decision and one which we promise to monitor and revisit. We have spent many hours researching current “best practices,” official guidance, published medical reports and recommendations, and surveying current published policies among other schools and studios. Virginia state policy does not currently mandate masks to be worn during exercise so long as those participating remain appropriately socially distanced. These policies, however, are based on presumed gatherings of socially-conscious, self-aware adults the rationality of which we cannot anticipate or expect across the broad range of our many student levels.

Among other studios, policies are mixed. Similarly, university programs we have looked at are requiring masks but allowing exceptions. There simply is no one “right” answer or “one-size-fits-all” solution. Based on all of the foregoing, we believe we can safely allow more widespread use of MSA’s studio space for in-person instruction and implement a modified plan allowing limited exceptions to our mask-wearing requirements.

Effective immediately and until further notice, everyone entering MSA must be wearing a mask at all times while in the building, the only limited exceptions to which are set forth below. The mask needs to cover your nose, mouth and chin, with no gaps where respiratory droplets could easily escape. The mask should be breathable so you can still exert yourself, but thick enough to stop your respiratory droplets. Since the mask will be close to your face for prolonged periods of time, opt for natural fabrics, such as bamboo and cotton that work well at filtering particles while also allowing breathability. One experiencing a shortness of breath or similar medical condition for which the removal of the mask is necessary should notify the instructor immediately.

For the time being (but subject to change), the following limited exceptions to the mask-wearing requirement shall be allowed:

- those with medical conditions supported with documentation to the effect that wearing a mask while physically exerting oneself would subject them to an unreasonably heightened risk of exacerbating the condition and a signed medical waiver on file (Note: students in a class with another student allowed to participate without a mask will be notified in advance and allowed to participate virtually if choosing not to participate under such conditions.)
- those working in a studio or classroom alone without any other person(s) present.

# ENTRANCE/EXIT MAP



# STUDIO LAYOUT EXAMPLE

