



Guidelines for Visual & Performing Arts



Los Angeles Unified Arts Education Branch

We are committed to offering all LA Unified students the opportunity to explore the arts through dance, music, theatre or visual arts. In order to ensure a safe environment, the Arts Education Branch offers the following guidance based on the [County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: Appendix T1](#) effective August 12, 2021, and [Protocol for Organized Youth Sports: Appendix S](#) Effective Date: September 01, 2021. Policies are subject to change, consistent with LACDPH and District guidelines.

Guidelines for Visual and Performing Arts

- Performers, staff, visitors and guests must wear a face mask during rehearsals and performances, indoors and outdoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- Students and staff must test weekly for COVID-19, providing a negative result.
- Conduct entry screening of all participants (performers, staff, visitors, and guests) using the Daily Pass or the health check questions.
 - Students and staff can access the Daily Pass on any computer, tablet or mobile device at <https://dailypass.lausd.net/>.
 - Parents and guests must respond to daily health check questions.
- Use precautions when in large groups or performing ensembles and evaluate the necessity of such activity on a case-by-case basis. During classes or rehearsals, encourage activities that do not involve sustained person-to-person contact.
 - It is recommended that students and staff remain distanced at 3 feet from one another on- and off-stage.
 - Any activity that requires participants to remove their face mask (e.g., playing wind and brass instruments) may only be done as a group if the activity is held outdoors. However, individuals may practice such activity alone indoors in a studio or practice room with the door closed.
 - It is recommended that students do not share musical instruments. If instruments must be shared, they must be disinfected before being used by another student. Mouthpieces should never be shared.
 - Specialized music masks with a slit designed for playing woodwinds and brass do not provide protection against COVID-19 and should not be used.
 - Musicians must practice and perform while wearing their face mask. Woodwind and brass players may temporarily remove their masks only when actually playing.

- Bell covers are recommended to minimize the generation of droplets and aerosols.
- Perform instrument cleaning, including wiping down and blowing through it, at home or outside and away from others before and after practice.
- Remind students to limit exertion to a comfortable level while wearing a face mask and to take breaks if they experience difficulty breathing. Masks should be changed if they become wet.
- Use microphones for performances to the maximum extent feasible so that performers can limit voice projections. It is recommended that students do not share microphones. If microphones must be shared, they must be disinfected before being used by another student. Shared equipment must be sanitized after each use.
- Limit the sharing of visual arts supplies, props, costumes, wigs and any high-touch objects. All items must be disinfected before first use and between uses by different students.

Performances/Exhibits

- All participants and attendees, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask.
- Conduct audience entry screening using the Daily Pass or the health check questions.
- Post the “Safe and Healthy Welcome” and entry screening signage to remind everyone who enters that they should not enter if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or if they are under isolation or quarantine orders.
- Place handwashing stations or hand sanitizer at entry and outside communal bathrooms with signage promoting use.
- Establish procedures to prevent crowding among persons waiting to enter or exit an event.
- Maintain at least a 12-foot distance between performers and audience members.
- Indoor spectator capacity should be capped at 50% of the available seating (not based on full capacity of the venue).
- Concessions are at the discretion of each site and are only allowed at outdoor activities. School sites are prohibited from having any type of self-serve tables for food or condiments. Condiments must be prepackaged and provided upon request by the individual ordering that food item.

Inter-School Events

- All LA Unified students will be required to adhere to COVID-19 testing protocols. All students on campus are required to test weekly.. For information on COVID-19 testing and vaccination visit <https://achieve.lausd.net/covidtestingappt>. To schedule a COVID-19 test go to <https://dailypass.lausd.net/>.
- Socializing with other schools is strongly discouraged.

For questions related to Arts Education and/or in-person VAPA events, please contact Dr. Steven J. McCarthy, Director of Arts Education at steven.mccarthy@lausd.net.