



SAFE RETURN TO PLAYING PLAN

June 14, 2021

Introduction

The safety of the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra's (BSO) musicians, staff, and community is our top priority. As the CDC continues to relax rules, COVID-19 cases continue to go down, and vaccination rates go up, the BSO's plan for rehearsals and concerts commencing after July 1, 2021, is to meet in-person as a full orchestra and provide a pre-COVID playing experience with some safety modifications.

As the BSO resumes indoor rehearsals and performances, we expect everyone to be responsible for their own health and the health of our members by being vaccinated against COVID or wearing a mask. Members who have symptoms of or who test positive for COVID are expected to stay home from rehearsals and concerts.

The following plan is based on MDH recommendations with input from BSO musicians, and approved by the Board of Directors on June 13, 2021.

Participants, including musicians, staff, and contractors

- All participants are required to [sign a one-time waiver/disclosure](#) prior to participation.
- Since the best protection against COVID-19 is vaccination, **the BSO strongly encourages all musicians to be vaccinated.** Vaccinations and disclosure of vaccination status are not required to participate.
- It is essential that musicians who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, who have had close contact with an infected person, or have traveled, to follow recommended testing and quarantine protocols. Links to the most current protocols will be available on the BSO website for reference.
- Masks are not required, however, masks are encouraged for unvaccinated players. Unvaccinated players who choose not to wear a mask accept the risk of infection which is greater for unvaccinated individuals.

Rehearsal & Performance Plan

- Ventilation will be maximized by leaving the doors open as practical.
- Overhead fans will not run to minimize the spread of aerosol droplets.
- Musicians are expected to bring their own music and pencil.
- Brass and woodwind players are asked to bring a towel/absorbent pad to collect and wipe up condensation from your instrument.
- If you are concerned about sharing a stand and/or distancing, you may bring your own music stand and be seated further away from other musicians, as space allows.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided by the BSO, to use as you enter the rehearsal/concert space.

Disclaimer

Due to COVID-19, all BSO meetings, rehearsals, and concerts are subject to change and all plans may be modified to accommodate the most current safety precautions/guidelines from the following agencies/entities: The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Hennepin County, and City of Bloomington.

This plan will be in place from the time that it is approved by the Board of Directors, and will be amended as new public health information is modified. The Board of Directors will review this plan at its monthly board meetings.

From the Minnesota Department of Health (5/29/2021)

[Recommendations for Music Activities and Performances during COVID-19](#)

- Get vaccinated
- Wear a face covering when recommended by the CDC and MDH
- If you are not vaccinated, stay 6' away from others outside of your household and wear a face covering as recommended by the MDH.

Everyone should:

- Wash their hands often
- Stay home if they are sick
- Follow guidance on staying home (quarantine) if exposed to someone who has COVID-19
- Follow testing recommendations for when they travel, have COVID-19 symptoms, or are exposed to COVID-19

Need to know when to stay home? Refer to [this document](#) to help make your decision.