

# BROADWAY ROSE

## THEATRE COMPANY

### 2022 Education Programs: COVID Information and Safety Protocols

In light of the rapid spread of the Omicron variant we have updated our protocols for 2022 education programs to include more rigorous safety measures. It is our hope that this will allow our students to participate in this in-person program while still keeping them as safe as we can.

The following are some of the safety measures we will be taking and that we ask parents, caretakers, and students to take as well:

**Mask requirements:** Students are asked to wear masks for the duration of class instruction. Any mask or snack breaks will take place either outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.

- Masks should be well-fitted with no gaps. Due to the more contagious Delta and Omicron variants, it is recommended students wear a properly fitted N95, KN95, or surgical mask underneath a cloth mask.
- Bandanas, gaiters, and sheer masks do not provide effective protection for the wearer or the other students and so are not allowed.
- If a camper does not have a mask, Broadway Rose will provide a children's size 3-layer surgical mask.
- All staff interacting directly with students will wear a KN95 or N95 mask.
- [Click here](#) to see CDC mask recommendations.

**Physical distancing:** Students are required to maintain a safe distance of at least 6 feet while waiting to be checked in and for the duration of class. We have indicated "social distance zones" in the theatre which are placed 8 feet from one another.

**Symptom screening:** Students will have their temperatures taken with a no-contact thermometer and be asked to verbally confirm that neither they nor anyone in their household is experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19. While asymptomatic cases are possible, it is our hope that by combining the daily symptom check with our other layers of protection we can do our best to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students.

**Vaccinations:** Vaccinations are encouraged but not required in order to participate in our educational programs however we do collect information regarding students' vaccination status so that we can make informed decisions regarding self-isolation and testing protocols if a student in class tests positive for COVID.

**Sanitization protocols:** Hand sanitizer will be made available throughout the space and any equipment like chairs and music stands will be sanitized before and after class.

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**Ventilation:** In order to improve airflow we will run the HVAC system which features hospital grade MERV 13 and UV filtration, as well as a unit air filter for the duration of class. When possible, we will move outside or open doors.

**If a student is exhibiting symptoms:** Students should not attend the education program if they are experiencing any one or more of the following symptoms. This applies regardless of vaccination status or confirmed exposure:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

**If a student is exhibiting any of the above symptoms but DOES NOT have a known close contact exposure:** They should self-isolate until they can get a COVID test\* 3 to 5 days following symptom onset.

If the student tests negative: they may return to class 5 days after symptom onset so long as they have been cough and fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

If the student tests positive: they should self-isolate for 10 days following the positive test. They may return to class after the 10-day self-isolation so long as they have been cough and fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

- We ask that caretakers inform Broadway Rose of their student's positive test result so that we may inform the other student families and instructors that they should self-isolate and get tested. *Students' names and information will never be shared when disclosing this information to other families.*

Omicron variant note: Evidence gathered thus far seems to show that many Omicron infections present at first with very mild symptoms that can be easily confused with the common cold. These include sore throat and stuffy nose. It also seems that Omicron may not present with the telltale loss of taste and smell associated with previous variants. If a student experiences any of the above symptoms, *even if they are mild*, they should not attend class.

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**If a student DOES have close contact exposure:** Any student with a confirmed exposure should not come to class regardless of whether or not they are showing symptoms. Close contact exposure is defined as having spent 15 minutes or more within 6 feet of someone who has tested positive for COVID.

Due to the extremely transmissible nature of the Omicron variant and the common breakthrough infections in vaccinated people, exposed students should self-isolate for 10 days regardless of their vaccination status and whether or not they are exhibiting symptoms.

- Please note that this policy differs from current CDC recommendations which recently shortened the isolation period to 5 days. The Broadway Rose education program policy is stricter to better protect our most at-risk students, instructors, and staff as it is estimated that anywhere between 20-40% of people are still contagious after 5 days following symptom onset.
- However, the 10-day self-isolation period can be shortened if the student is fully vaccinated and provides proof of negative test at any point between days 5 and 10 of their self-isolation.\* This caveat is due to [emerging studies](#) showing that fully vaccinated individuals clear the virus more quickly and are therefore, on average, less likely to be contagious for as long as unvaccinated individuals.

\* **Testing note:** Broadway Rose is not able to provide testing. If a student is exhibiting symptoms or has a confirmed exposure, it is recommended that they seek PCR testing. You can find testing locations on the [Washington County](#) and [Multnomah County](#) [websites](#).

It is important to note that rapid tests have shown to be less effective at detecting Omicron infection. Since the Omicron variant is particularly contagious, regardless of whether a student is showing symptoms or is vaccinated or not, if a student receives a negative rapid test result 3 to 5 days following a confirmed exposure, they should either seek a PCR test or wait to take another rapid test a couple of days following the first to confirm the negative result.

If a student is symptomatic following an exposure, they should wait to seek testing 3 to 5 days following symptom onset.

Testing is in high demand right now and there may be long waits. Due to the prolific spread of the Omicron variant, if a student has a confirmed exposure and feels ill but is not able to schedule a test we ask that they behave as though it is a COVID-19 infection and follow the above guidelines for self-isolation.