

# COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for The Bavarian Musikmeisters

The Bavarian Musikmeisters are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all our musicians and audience members. To ensure we have a safe and healthy rehearsal and performance environment, The Bavarian Musikmeisters Board of Directors has developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All band members are responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our rehearsal and performance environments.

The COVID-19 Preparedness Plan is administered by band president Kathy Dinndorf, who maintains the overall authority and responsibility for the plan. However, band members are equally responsible for supporting, implementing, complying with, and providing recommendations to further improve all aspects of this COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. We have involved band members in this process by distributing this plan to all band members and integrating their suggestions into the plan when applicable.

The Bavarian Musikmeisters' COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows the industry guidance developed by the state of Minnesota, available at the Stay Safe Minnesota website (<https://staysafe.mn.gov>), which is based upon Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines for COVID-19, Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) statutes, rules and standards, and Minnesota's relevant and current executive orders. It addresses:

- ensuring sick musicians stay home and prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;
- social distancing – musicians must be at least 6 feet apart when rehearsing or performing, and must be 12 feet from audience members when performing;
- musician hygiene and source controls, including face coverings;
- rehearsal space and ventilation protocol;
- rehearsal space cleaning and disinfection protocol; and
- communications protocol.

The Bavarian Musikmeisters Board of Directors has reviewed and incorporated the industry guidance applicable to our business provided by the state of Minnesota for the development of this plan, including the following industry guidance: "Music Activities and Performances During COVID-19". Other conditions and circumstances included in the industry guidance and addressed in the plan that are specific to our business include:

- additional protections and protocols for event venues and audiences;
- additional protections and protocols for face coverings;
- additional protections and protocol for sanitation and hygiene;
- additional protections and protocol for distancing; and
- additional protections and protocols for managing occupancy.

## Ensure sick band members stay home and prompt identification and isolation of sick persons

Band members have been informed of and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Band members must stay at home when they are sick, when household members are sick, when they are in quarantine due to a potential exposure to COVID-19, or when required by a health care provider to isolate or quarantine themselves or a member of their household.

If a band member tests positive for COVID-19 after having attended a rehearsal or performance, the band member will inform Kathy Dinndorf. Kathy will then send an email to members who would have been exposed to COVID-19 during this rehearsal or performance. The name of the band member who tested positive will not be communicated to protect the privacy of his/her health status and health information. Any member who was exposed must quarantine for 14 days before returning to rehearsals and performances. Alternatively exposed members may return sooner if they wait at least 6 days from exposure and then take a COVID-19 test. Only if the results of this test are negative may the exposed member return to rehearsals and performances prior to the end of the 14 day quarantine.

## **Social distancing – Musicians must be at least six-feet apart**

Social distancing of at least 6 feet will be implemented and maintained between musicians during rehearsals and on stage when performing. Because of this requirement, the size of the performance space will dictate the number of musicians allowed to perform at each event. The size and instrumentation of the performance group will be decided upon by the conductors once the size of the performance area has been determined, and will be limited to the number of performers that can comfortably fit in the performance area while maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet from one another.

In addition, all musicians must maintain a distance of 12 feet from audience members while performing.

## **Band member hygiene and source controls**

Protective masks will be worn at all times except when actively playing a wind or brass instrument. Audio and tech crew, percussionists, conductors and other nonperforming personnel will wear a face mask at all times.

Under Executive Order 20-81 ([www.leg.state.mn.us/archive/execorders/20-81.pdf](http://www.leg.state.mn.us/archive/execorders/20-81.pdf)), vocal performers may temporarily remove face coverings during indoor musical **performances** in businesses, public spaces, and theaters when a face covering cannot be worn due to the nature of the performance, as long as social distancing is always maintained. Face shields should be considered as an alternative in these situations. Vocal performers must wear face coverings during indoor **practices**.

Under Executive Order 20-81, musicians playing a musical instrument, such as a woodwind or brass instrument, may remove their face covering during an indoor practice or performance if the face covering cannot be used while playing the musical instrument, provided that social distancing is always maintained.

Band members are asked to consider using face coverings and bell covers designed for singers and musicians who play brass or woodwind instruments, whenever possible.

Brass players will have a method of capturing condensation from instruments, and will not blow condensation onto the floor. A recommended method is to rest a towel or thickly folded paper towels that will absorb the

condensation on top of a plastic bag that protects the floor, then use the plastic bag to dispose of the towels or bring home for laundering.

Band members are encouraged to only touch items that are in their seating area (seat, stand, personal belongings), and will not share stands, music, or microphones.

Band members will cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and avoid touching their face, particularly their mouth, nose, and eyes, with their hands. Band members are expected to dispose of tissues in provided trash receptacles and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward.

## **Rehearsal space and ventilation protocol**

When rehearsing indoors, playing instruments is allowed five minutes prior to start of rehearsal and once all personnel are seated after breaks. No playing will be done during breaks.

When rehearsing indoors, ensemble will rehearse in one-hour blocks of 40-minute rehearsal and 20-minute break times. This will allow air space to clear, minimizing transmission risk to personnel. Doors will be kept open if possible.

Rehearsals will be held outdoors whenever possible.

## **Rehearsal space cleaning and disinfection protocol**

The Bavarian Musikmeisters will adhere to the cleaning and disinfecting protocols of the entity providing an indoor rehearsal space.

## **Communications protocol**

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan was communicated via email to all band members and subs on April 3, 2021.

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan has been certified by The Bavarian Musikmeisters Board of Directors and the plan was posted on the band website and made readily available to band members on April 3, 2021. It will be updated as necessary by Kathy Dinndorf.

Certified by:

Kathy Dinndorf

April 3, 2021

President, The Bavarian Musikmeisters