

HMC Covid-19 Safety Procedures

Updated: September 2021

We've missed you! Here are some general policies in place to keep our students and staff as safe as possible while still being able to meet in-person at The Gasworks. These protocols have been developed using public health guidelines from the province and from the city of Hamilton.

Students, Staff, Guests (personal responsibility):

- Please complete the Ontario school self-assessment before attending rehearsal. We ask that you only come to The Gasworks if you are feeling well and have passed this screening. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>
- As per the city of Hamilton by-law, wearing a mask is mandatory for everyone entering the building and must be always worn while inside. This includes vocalists during rehearsal!
- We ask that visitors please use the provided hand sanitizing and handwashing stations provided when exiting and entering the building and when needed throughout. Please sign the contact tracing clipboard upon entry. All common surfaces will be sanitized thoroughly before and after rehearsals.
- All our in-person instructors are required to be fully vaccinated. Out of an abundance of caution, if any member of a class receives a positive covid test result, class will be cancelled until all students and instructors receive a negative covid test result.

Changes to Rehearsals/classes:

- Rehearsal/class times have been shortened. This allows for ample time to sanitize common surfaces between rehearsals and time for the room to air out between groups. Bring a sweater!
- Our new space offers large, spacious rooms! Social distancing in rehearsals won't be a problem and students spots will be clearly marked. HEPA air purifiers are onsite and doors will be kept open in the theatre when possible to circulate fresh air.
- Students are required to bring their own instruments, sheet music, pencils and where possible (and applicable) their own patch cords, picks, drum sticks etc. Vocalists will be assigned their own mic to use for the year (to be kept at The Gasworks). For Jambassadors, a sanitized backline will still be provided.

Arriving to rehearsal :

- Please plan for students to arrive no more than 10 minutes before scheduled rehearsal time. We ask that parents please wait outside of the building for their student (if feasible) and wait for them to exit through the "green room" doors.
- To make the best of traffic flow, we will be directing students to exit through the "green room" doors which open into the parking lot (not too far from the main entrance doors). That way incoming groups entering through the main doors won't be crossing paths with students exiting the building. There will be signage to make this path clear and younger students will be accompanied by their instructor.