



BARC Youth Theatre **COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL: est. 3/9/2021**

OBJECTIVE:

The goal of the BARC Youth Theatre program is to provide every student the opportunity to participate in a true theatrical experience, no matter what their experience level may be. It is also our mission to provide a safe and comfortable environment in which our community's youth can grow, learn, explore, perform and make new friends. The BARC Youth Theatre Company will follow all safety and health guidelines as presented to us by the CDC and local Department of Health. Rehearsals will take place where Covid responsible accommodating space is available. Locations of rehearsals may change due to changing guidelines. Advance notice will be given via weekly email notification. Most rehearsals and all performances will take place at Ballston Spa High School.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES (at all locations):

Only students "called" to rehearsal on a scheduled date and time will be allowed to enter the rehearsal space and participate in meetings, workshops and rehearsals. All persons in attendance will have completed an online Wellness Screening Questionnaire or can complete it at check-in. All participants/volunteers/staff will also complete a temperature check upon arrival. All students under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult for check-in. All students (or parent/caregiver) must be able to show proof of completing the Wellness Screening Questionnaire at check-in. This process includes Program Coordinators, staff and approved volunteers.

*****Parents/Caregivers will NOT be allowed in the building and/or rehearsal space during rehearsals.**

*****At this time, we are unsure if attending a live performance will be an option. Every effort will be made to accommodate live performances based on guidance from the CDC, New York State and Federal Regulations and Guidelines and local Department of Health.**

USE OF PPE (PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT):

- * Approved face masks covering the mouth *and* nose will be worn at all times when in the building.
- * Spare masks will be on hand and provided on an as needed basis.
- * Hand sanitizer will be available at all times.

PERSONAL SPACE AND PERSONAL HAND HYGIENE PRACTICES:

- * Students will be educated to be sure hands are washed prior to entering the building, after using the restroom and after a cough or sneeze.
- * Reminders will be given as necessary to avoid touching eyes and face during rehearsals/performances.
- * Restrooms will be available for handwashing as needed.

SOCIAL DISTANCE GUIDELINES:

- * Assigned seating will be utilized when students are not on stage. When in the BSHS Auditorium, these areas have already been measured and marked to comply with current distance regulations. This will also allow for ease of contact tracing if necessary.
- * Areas of the stage have also been measured and marked to comply with current distance regulations.
- * Students will be educated on spacing regulations while rehearsing and performing. ie: social distancing, assigned seating arrangements, 6 feet distancing with dialog and 12 feet distancing while singing on the stage.



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WHEN NOT TO ATTEND:

If a participant has any sign or symptom of illness including but not limited to: Fever, chills, fatigue, headache, body and/or muscle ache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, shortness of breath, sore throat, cough, stuffy/runny nose or loss of taste or smell prior to attending a meeting, workshop, rehearsal or performance.

DO NOT ATTEND:

- * If you have been tested for Covid-19 and have not received your results yet.
- * If you have tested positive for Covid-19
- * If you have been exposed to someone with Covid-19
- * If in the last 10 days prior to attending a meeting, rehearsal or performance you have traveled outside of New York State (except bordering states - NJ, CT, PA, MA, VT). You must complete a NYS Traveler Health Form with the Department of Health and advise the Program Coordinators that this was completed. Attendance *may or may not* be denied based on what the state and federal regulations are at the time.

***If there are any questions or concerns about whether or not you or your child should attend a rehearsal, workshop or performance please feel free to contact Producer/Program Coordinator Melissa Glastetter at mglastetter@barctheatre.org or Director/Program Coordinator Mike Gatzendorfer at mgatzendorfer@barctheatre.org

***If you answer YES to any of the bullet points in the “when not to attend” section, please contact Melissa Glastetter at mglastetter@barctheatre.org BEFORE attending any meeting, workshop, rehearsal or performance.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURE:

Prior to each meeting, workshop, rehearsal or performance a designated staff will ensure that all high touch areas are disinfected. Each student will check in with the program coordinator or other staff designated to take attendance, prior to proceeding to the rehearsal space, and will ensure that an online Wellness Screening Questionnaire has been completed and temperature has been checked. All staff and volunteers will also complete a Wellness Screening. All temperatures will be checked to ensure they are below 100 degrees per CDC recommendation upon arrival to each meeting, rehearsal, workshop or performance. Anyone noted to have a temperature >100 will be dismissed. After check-in and passing the screening process each participant will then take an assigned seat and wait for further instruction/direction. Masks will be worn at all times when in the rehearsal space. Extra masks will be available in case they are needed. Hand sanitizer will be available at all times, and students will be reminded to use proper hand hygiene when necessary.

AUDITORIUM SEATING:

- * Assigned seats have been measured and marked for recommended social distancing at BSHS. Students and their belongings will utilize these assigned seats for the duration of the program to aide in contact tracing if needed. The stage has been measured and marked for recommended distancing while performing (6 feet apart for dialog and 12 feet apart while singing). Participants will be educated how and when these markings will be used.



BARC Youth Theatre
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HANDLING OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

High touch surfaces will be disinfected safely and regularly by the Program Coordinator or staff that is present. Each cast member will be given their own materials/script. There will be no sharing of materials or utensils. Each cast member is asked to bring their script/instructions and a writing utensil of their own to each rehearsal or workshop. Clean extra pencils will be kept on hand and provided if necessary and will be kept by the participant after use. Microphones will be assigned and designated for individual use. They will be labeled, disinfected and individually stored after each use. Documentation will be made as to when and who performed this processes after each use and before storage. If any props are in use, all reasonable attempts will be made to make them an individual prop. If any prop needs to be used by more than one person it will be disinfected in between each use. All high touch surfaces will be disinfected regularly.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING:

- *Their own materials (writing utensil, script/instructions, water bottle)
- *Materials and personal items will NOT be shared

MICROPHONES AND PROPS:

- *Microphones will be assigned and designated for individual use
- *Microphones will be labeled, disinfected and individually stored after each use
- *Documentation of disinfection will take place prior to storage of all microphones in use
- *Any props used will be disinfected prior to storage
- *Documentation of disinfection will take place prior to storage of all props in use

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE:

At the end of each rehearsal, participants will be dismissed with a reminder to remain socially distant while leaving the building and/or waiting for rides. A designated staff will be responsible to do one last disinfection of all areas used and this will be documented for accountability.

***Parents/Caregivers will NOT be allowed in the building and/or rehearsal space for pick up. An staff will be designated to be present for dismissal so no child is left alone waiting for a ride. Please be prompt for pick-up.

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE PROCEDURE:

Any form of attendance of a live performance will receive prior approval and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, New York State and Federal Guidelines and local Department of Health first and we will be required to adhere to all state, county and district health and safety measures.

***If all safety protocols are adhered to and all involved work together to ensure the health and well-being of all participants, we will be able to provide an enriching theatrical experience for our students and community.

***Please be understanding that we are working within the constraints of current regulations as they are currently presented to us. As Covid restrictions change these protocols will be revised.