

To view the general guidelines and latest updates for the University, please visit carolinatogether.unc.edu.

Please note that the information found here is subject to change as conditions change. Please check back for the latest information regularly. Any changes will also be communicated to students and faculty via email and social media.

Pod System Training

Learn how to use our low-latency pod system!

[Click here to view the training graphics and system directions.](#)

Fall 2021 Updates (effective August 1, 2021)

Highlights

- Masks (and bell covers for winds) are still required in all indoor spaces including practice rooms
- Unmasked individual instruction, rehearsal, and concert performance activities must be pre-approved by the department (see details and instructions below)
- 10 minutes for air exchange in all spaces (i.e. practice rooms, rehearsal spaces, etc.) is required after every 60-minute interval of playing
- No distancing required indoors (i.e. classrooms); distancing on stage is at the discretion of ensemble directors
- Department music stands available for ensemble rehearsals/concerts in KMB 1201, Moeser, Person, HI 107 only; students are still required to have their own stand for lessons and practice rooms

General Guidelines

The Department of Music is prioritizing the health and safety of our community in all of our plans for the Academic Year of 2021-22. To do this, we are following [UNC's Community Standards](#) as well as those recommended by the [Performing Arts Aerosol Study](#) whose recommendations have been released in stages.

Masks

We require that everyone wear masks inside our buildings but vaccinated faculty who may remove their masks while teaching as long as three to six feet of physical distancing is maintained. When playing their instruments, brass and woodwind students are required to wear modified masks (no gaps in the mask, nose covered and tight enough around the edges that an

outline appears when it is removed) and to use double-layer bell covers on their instrument (double-layer cover with the center layer being made of MERV-13 filter material). See the Department Policy on Modified Masks and Bell Covers [here](#). The only exceptions are for brass, voice, and woodwind students in a designated pod in Kenan or Hill or in a practice room in Hill, or if pre-approved by the department (see below for details and instructions)

Handwashing

Please wash your hands frequently and utilize the hand sanitizer stations available throughout the buildings. Please sanitize your hands before touching/using any shared materials such as opening doors, sitting at desks in classrooms, or playing the pianos in practice rooms.

Distancing and Classroom Cleaning

Because the university no longer requires distancing in classrooms, classroom capacity for teaching will return to normal. However, distancing of students (e.g. wind players and singers) for lessons, rehearsals, performances, and in classrooms (when sufficient space is available) will be left to the discretion of instructors.

Student COVID-19 Vaccine Certification

Music students who are vaccinated and have submitted their self-report form to the university may petition the Department of Music for approval to participate in unmasked individual studio lessons, rehearsals, and performances. Vaccinated students should submit their requests [here](#).

Vaccinated students are encouraged to communicate with their studio instructor and ensemble directors for more information. The department will consult with studio and ensemble instructors for approving unmasked requests submitted by vaccinated students. Vaccinated faculty may remove their masks while teaching as long as three to six feet of physical distancing is maintained.

Getting your COVID-19 vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and others from the COVID-19 virus, while contributing to a typical, in-person experience at Carolina this fall. The university plans to use students' vaccinated status to determine participation in the Carolina Together Testing Program and for quarantine and isolation requirements if you are exposed to the virus. **Students who are vaccinated will NOT be required to participate in asymptomatic testing as part of the Carolina Together Testing Program in the fall** (for more information, please visit [here](#)).

Although the university is not requiring the COVID-19 vaccine at this time, students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to receive it. The university is operating the Carolina Vaccine Clinic.

Vaccination reservations are available for students and post-doctoral fellows at StudentCOVIDVax.unc.edu. To complete the vaccine self-report form, please click [here](#).

If you have concerns about the vaccine, UNC Health has a [hub](#) that addresses many questions about the vaccine, including [important facts](#).

What to Do When Symptoms Appear

Before leaving home for classes each day, students, faculty, and staff should check for symptoms. *Anyone who is experiencing any symptom(s) indicated on this [checklist](#) must not go to class or work and should contact their health care provider.* Students who develop symptoms or feel sick should immediately self-isolate and contact [Campus Health](#). You can view their COVID-19 resources [here](#). **Do not go to an asymptomatic testing location.**

For faculty and staff, Environment, Health, and Safety have created COVID-19 resources, which can be found [here](#).

Testing and Tracing

For information on university protocols for contact tracing for students and employees, please visit [here](#).

For complete details and the latest updates on the Carolina Together Testing policy, please visit [here](#).

Performances and Live Audiences

Following the safety guideline updates most recently announced by the [CDC](#), [Performing Arts Aerosol Study](#), [Governor Roy Cooper](#), and [Chancellor Kevin M. Guskiewicz and Provost Robert A. Blouin](#), the Department of Music will safely host live audiences in Moeser Auditorium, KMB 1201, Hill Hall 107, and Person Recital Hall.

Performances may also be live-streamed and/or recorded and posted on the department YouTube channel at the designated times found on our events calendar, [here](#).

Safety Guidelines for Indoor Performances with Live Audiences

Live audiences are permitted indoors in Moeser Auditorium, KMB 1201, Hill Hall 107, and Person Recital Hall with the following safety precautions taken:

- All indoor performances must allot for 10 minutes of non-playing time after every 60-minutes of playing; performances and audiences are not required to vacate the space
- All equipment (music stands, seats, etc.) must be sanitized before and after each use
- After each performance, venues must be vacated for a minimum of one (1) air exchange; the time needed for one (elevated) air exchange to occur may vary between Moeser Auditorium, KMB 1201, Hill Hall 107, and Person Recital Hall. (Signs are posted indicating the time needed for one air exchange to occur.)

- All performers are required to wear masks, including singers and wind players, except vaccinated students who have submitted their self-report form to the university and who have received approval from the department to perform unmasked
- Distancing of approved unmasked players is at the discretion of the instructor
- All wind players (except vaccinated students who have submitted their self-report form to the university and who have received approval from the department to perform unmasked) are required to use bell covers on their instruments; brass players (regardless of vaccination status) must also use puppy pads to capture spit valve release
- Concert organizers must ensure that hand sanitizers are accessible for all participants, audience included
- All people seated in the audience must be masked (no exceptions including fully vaccinated people)
- Distanced seating (e.g. arranged by four-seat pods, two-seat pods, and single seats) is at the discretion of the ensemble instructor
- All people attending and/or participating in the performance should [monitor their symptoms](#) prior to coming to campus. If they have one of the COVID-19 symptoms they should contact their health care provider **and should not come to campus**.

Monitoring and Enforcement

Concert organizers (i.e. faculty) are encouraged to include language in all announcements (social media, emails, etc.) and program notes that all audience members will be required to wear masks. Organizers should also reiterate the department's live audience safety guidelines prior to the start of concerts, and program organizers and staff should monitor audience compliance. Organizers should also plan accordingly with Campus Police in case of audience non-compliance.

Rehearsals

All faculty and/or student rehearsals (ensembles, combos, etc.) may take place in a room for up to 60 minutes maximum before 10 minutes of non-playing must occur to allow for air exchange. The rehearsal leader must indicate the time when the room can be reoccupied (i.e. 10 minutes after the conclusion of rehearsal) on the "clock sign" hanging on the door to the rehearsal space.

Pod & Practice Rooms

Students are required to follow the Pod & Practice Room Safety Protocol posted on Pod-connected room doors and practice room doors. This protocol includes leaving any room used for unmasked singing/playing vacant for 10 minutes to allow at least one HVAC air change to occur before being occupied by another student.

Music Stands

Music students are required to have their own portable music stand and to use that stand for practice rooms and lessons. Any stand, including wire ones, will be fine. Stands can be purchased in local music stores or online, and the UNC Bookstore also stocks them.

Department music stands will be available for ensemble rehearsals and concerts only in KMB 1201, Moeser Auditorium, Person Recital Hall, and Hill Hall 107.

Practice Room Guidelines

Scheduling

Practice room use will return to normal with the exception of leaving rooms vacant for 10 minutes at the conclusion of a practice session. Students must indicate the time when the room can be reoccupied (i.e. 10 minutes after vacating the room) on the “clock sign” hanging on the door to the practice room.

Cleaning

There will be cleaning materials available in practice room areas, and we need everyone’s help in creating a safe environment. When you are done using a practice room, please use these materials to wipe down surfaces in that space.

Brass players are required to use disposable absorbent (“puppy”) pads beneath their playing area to collect spit, water, and condensation. These will be available outside of rehearsal and lesson spaces.

Piano Cleaning

The guidelines for using a piano are as follows:

1. Use the wipes provided by the department to wipe down the keys and commonly touched areas around the keyboard and music desk.
2. Discard the used wipe — There are trash bins placed near the CPE stations.
3. Sanitize your hands.
4. For your health and safety, as well as the health and safety of others, repeat steps 1-3 once you are finished using the piano.

Private Lessons

Applied Registration Forms

Students will not use printed Applied Registration forms for MUSC 100-106. Please contact the instructor of the class if you are interested in taking lessons to get registered, and use the online registration form found at <https://music.unc.edu/register-for-applied-lessons/>.

Lesson Format

Please check with your individual instructor about the format and safety precautions being made for your individual lessons.

Music students who are vaccinated and have submitted their self-report form to the university may petition the Department of Music for approval to participate in unmasked individual studio lessons. (See above for instructions on how to submit your petition.) Vaccinated students are encouraged to communicate with their instructor for more information. The department will consult with instructors for approving unmasked requests submitted by vaccinated students.

For all other in-person lessons, students and faculty will be masked at all times. Some lessons may be held in the Department's new lesson hub and pod system, which will connect student and teacher with high-quality, low-latency audio and video. Wind and brass players and vocalists may remove their masks when playing or singing when alone in one of the designated rooms of the pod system for lessons. Some lessons may be fully remote. We ask that students wear a mask, even when alone in these spaces, when they are talking, listening, or resting between playing sessions.

Brass players will also be asked to use disposable absorbent pads beneath their playing area to collect spit, water, and condensation. These will be available outside of rehearsal and lesson spaces.

Ensembles (i.e. Class Meetings)

Please check individual ensembles pages [here](#) for audition and rehearsal information. Some ensembles may hold virtual auditions and have modified rehearsals, including outdoor rehearsals, chamber music, and the use of multiple rehearsal spaces connected with low-latency, high-quality audio.

Wind and brass players and vocalists may remove their masks when alone in one of the designated rooms of the pod system during ensemble rehearsals. We ask that students wear a mask, even when alone in these spaces, when they are talking, listening, or resting between playing sessions. (For vaccinated student exemptions, see above.)

Printed Materials

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Department will avoid using printed materials as much as possible. Syllabi, course materials, programs, etc. will be released in digital format whenever appropriate.

Music Library

The Music Library (and other branch libraries) will remain closed until further notice. Library staff are working and invite you to contact them if you have any questions: musiclibraryinfo@unc.edu

Library materials can be requested through the catalog. We have made many additional types of materials available to check out this way, so that you can now request composers' collected works, serials, reference books and sound and video recordings, as well as scores and books. Look for the Request button in the item's catalog record.

Requested items must be picked up at Davis (or Health Sciences) Library. There is no delivery to Campus Boxes at this point. When you request library items, if you like you can make arrangements for contactless pick-up outside Davis Library on Wednesdays. [Here](#) is more information about the Pickup service.

Patrons going inside Davis (or the Health Sciences Library) must wear a mask. You can return all materials to Davis (or HSL) at their Service Desk inside (check [here](#) for their adjusted hours), the book return drop at the Davis exit, or the book return bin near the ATMs behind Davis.

You can find detailed information about the Music Library's resources at <https://library.unc.edu/music/>.