

SUMMER ACADEMY SAFETY PROTOCOL

To ensure the health and wellbeing of our students, families, and staff, First Stage is committed to implementing procedures to create a safe environment for all of our Summer Theater Academy classes this year.

We will be shifting 70% of our Summer Academy classes to a virtual platform, with programming starting June 15. These classes will follow the Theater Academy curriculum, with professional theater artists sharing their expertise, skills, and passion for their art with our students, from ages 3-19 years old. All of these virtual class options will run as weeklong sessions, and we encourage students to try new classes and sign up for multiple sessions throughout the summer. Although we may be physically apart this summer, our Summer Academy will remain a place where students are encouraged to take risks and conquer their fears, and actively engage in developing and strengthening their acting skills.

In addition to our virtual programming, we anticipate holding a limited number of in-person classes at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center. We are working to develop procedures to ensure secure admittance into our classroom spaces, which will include the following safety measures:

- All in-person classes will be capped at eight students.
- Class start and end times will be staggered, to ensure no more than eight students will be entering or exiting the building at all times. Parents or other caregivers will not be allowed in the building during class time.
- Students and staff will have their temperature taken upon arrival each day. If a student or staff member shows a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, they will not be admitted into the building.
- Students and staff will be required to wear face masks while entering or exiting the building. Face masks will be allowed to be removed during class time.
- Classes will be held in our large rehearsal halls, with taped-out grids on the floor to ensure students and staff maintain six feet of separation at all times.
- Rehearsal halls will be cleaned and disinfected in between class sessions and nightly.
- Final presentations will be shared with family and friends through a virtual platform.
- In the event that we do not feel it is safe to carry out in-person classes, these sessions will be moved to a virtual platform.

Registration for these new Theater Academy summer classes will begin, Tuesday, May 12. First priority will be given to students currently enrolled in summer programming. Enrollment for all other students will open on Friday, May 22.

As artists and educators, we are flexible and resilient, and although this summer may look different, we feel confident in providing our students with the same magical Theater Academy experience we have all come to know and love. We are looking forward to welcoming new and returning students for another summer filled with learning, laughter, and fun!

