

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 Academy classes.

Over the last year and half, we have shifted from virtual-only programming, to hybrid programming, and now we are proud to be fully back in-person for the Summer 2021 Academy. Our in-person programming has proven to be very safe and effective throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Input from families and students gave very positive feedback and suggestions as we navigated a safe and gradual return to in-person classes. Through thorough training and dedication from First Stage and MYAC staff, our 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. We have developed procedures to ensure secure admittance into our building. All of these policies are designed to follow and exceed CDC guidelines and are enforced without exception. New policies include the following safety measures:

- All in-person classes will be capped below room capacity to allow for social distancing.
- Class start and end times will be staggered, to ensure that students will be entering or exiting the building with their cohorts only. Parents or other caregivers will not be allowed in the building during class time.
- We ask that families use the BriskTable app to do a health check each day of class. Before a student can enter the building, our staff will be checking to make sure their health screening has been completed.
- Students and staff are required to wear masks at all times.
- Classes will be held in our large classrooms and rehearsal halls, with indicators in hallways and rooms to help students maintain social distancing.
- 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. As artists and educators, we are flexible and resilient, and 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!

