

Northwest Girlchoir is dedicated to the physical, mental, and emotional health of our choristers and their families. We pledge to monitor and follow local, State and national public health policies. Parents sign a COVID-19 agreement in the annual registration form, to accept/acknowledge the risk associated with group activity.

#### Health Policies

- All staff, volunteers, and choristers must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by January 31, 2021.
- Those with a medical condition or closely held religious beliefs preventing vaccination may apply for exemption. Those whose exemption forms are approved will be required to show weekly negative COVID-19 tests (PCR or rapid antigen) taken 72 hours before rehearsal. Approved exemptions are honored for one choir year.
- Parents are responsible for monitoring chorister's health and keeping their chorister home if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- If we are notified of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, we will follow protocols on page two.

#### Facility/Class Procedures

- Rehearsal groups are intentionally limited in size to allow for three-foot social distancing.
- Only choristers, staff, and volunteers are allowed in the building; choristers can arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to rehearsal.
- Well-fitting masks are required at all times; if a chorister has forgotten a mask, one will be provided at check-in. Recommended masks are KN95, N95, or KF94. If unavailable, use a cloth mask over top of a surgical mask, or a single surgical mask.
- Choristers are expected to use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon arrival.
- Only one person at a time will be allowed in bathrooms and in the elevator.
- Rehearsal room windows and doors will be open for airflow, so choristers should dress for the weather. To further improve ventilation, we will be using portable HEPA air purifiers in rehearsal rooms.

#### Arrival/Departure Procedures

- Parents should park and walk choristers to the East Entrance, but not enter the building.
- Choristers must maintain a 3-foot distance on the stairs, hallways, and classrooms.

#### Concert Procedures

- Northwest Girlchoir will follow the policies of our concert venues and communicate those policies to families and audience members as far in advance as possible of each tech rehearsal and concert.
- Current policies include chorister vaccination, masking and distancing and required masking for all audience members, as well as vaccination for all audience members OR a negative PCR or antigen test within 72 hours of the performance.

Note: Northwest Girlchoir's COVID-19 policies may change as CDC policies change.

**If your chorister or anyone in your household has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, contact Choir Administrator Ann Selznick ASAP at 206-527-2900 or [info@northwestgirlchoir.org](mailto:info@northwestgirlchoir.org). See details below, but do not send your chorister to choir.** If we are notified of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, we will take steps below and will not disclose the chorister/family name.

### Suspected Case

In the case of a suspected case of COVID-19 of anyone in your household, we will

- Notify all chorister families and staff.
- Instruct staff member or chorister with a suspected case of COVID-19 – and any siblings in choir – to stay home and self-quarantine if indicated below.
- Update chorister families and staff if/when a suspected case is cleared.

**Staff or choristers with a suspected case of COVID-19 may not return to choir until they meet the conditions outlined in our Return Policy below.**

### Close Contact with a Suspected Case

If a chorister or staff member believes they have been in **close contact** with a person suspected of having COVID-19, they should monitor their health for signs of fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, chills, headache, loss of taste or smell, muscle or body aches, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, congestion/runny nose (not related to seasonal allergies) and unusual fatigue.

“Close contact” means being closer than six feet from an infected person for at least 15 minutes, during a timespan between 48 hours before they started showing symptoms and the time the infected person is isolated (or, for individuals with no symptoms, between 48 hours before the date the positive test was collected and the time the infected person is isolated). Close contact also happens if someone with COVID-19 coughs on you, kisses you, shares utensils with you, or you have contact with their body fluids.

### Confirmed Case

In the case of a “confirmed” case of COVID-19, we will:

- Notify the Public Health Seattle & King County and consult with them regarding next steps.
- Notify all chorister families and staff.
- Instruct the person with confirmed COVID-19 to stay home for 5 days after their positive test, then return to choir after a negative PCR or antigen test.
- Instruct those who had close contact with the person (see above) to stay home if they have symptoms.

### Return Policy for a Fully Vaccinated Person w/ Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19

**NEW: If a fully vaccinated person was in close contact with someone suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, they do not need to stay home unless they are having symptoms. Whether or not you develop symptoms, get tested at least 5 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19. Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.**

- If a person tests positive for COVID-19, they may return to choir 5 days after the positive result if they show a negative antigen test, or after 10 days from symptom onset or positive test (whichever is earliest) regardless of follow-up testing.
- If a person has symptoms but tests negative for COVID-19, they may return to choir 24 hours after fever has resolved (without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms have improved.
- If the person has one or more symptoms and had no test, they can return to choirs 10 days after symptoms started AND at least 24 hours after fever resolved (without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms have improved.