

What to Know About

Best Practices for the Performing Arts

This document summarizes requirements, recommendations, and best practices for organizations and individuals engaging in performing arts in San Luis Obispo County. See [full guidance](#) for complete details.

- ✓ **Performing arts include various forms of music, dance, and drama.**
- ✓ Forceful vocalizations and exhalations, in activities like singing, voice projection, playing wind instruments, and movement arts produce more respiratory droplets and aerosols than typical breathing or talking.
- ✓ **Several factors affect the safety of an activity.** Outdoor settings are generally safer than indoor settings. If indoors, ensure ventilation meets or exceeds current standards in the CDPH Interim guidance for [Ventilation, Filtration, and Air Quality in Indoor Environments](#).
- ✓ **Physical distancing remains critical.** Wind instruments and vocalists should maintain at least 6 feet distance from other performers and at least 12 feet distance from audience members. In addition, musicians playing wind or brass instruments must place bell covers on the instruments.
- ✓ **Masks are required indoors** for all individuals regardless of vaccination status; however, performers may temporarily remove their masks while actively performing when specific precautions are in place.
- ✓ Respiratory aerosols build up in enclosed spaces with inadequate ventilation, which can lead to virus concentrations in the air if a performer is infectious. **Maximize ventilation** indoors by upgrading the building's air filters or opening windows and doors. Limit indoor rehearsal time and use a microphone to amplify voice instead of projecting vocalizations.
- ✓ **Requirements for employees are different than those for attendees.** Employers must follow the [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards \(ETS\)](#).
- ✓ **Strongly recommend weekly COVID-19 testing for all unvaccinated members of the ensemble** if they perform (includes practice and rehearsals) indoors.