



Stage Right 2020 Summer Camp Safety Protocols

As we have watched the events of the last few months unfold, we, like all of you, have been stunned by how quickly our lives have changed. A global pandemic of this magnitude has not been seen by our generation, nor in a world as globally connected as we are now. Every individual across the world has struggled in individual ways with this crisis and as an organization, we are also navigating uncharted waters, balancing safety, mental health concerns and commitment to our students, staff and their families. The safety of everyone in our program is our utmost and primary concern, but the children and young adults in Stage Right also need something positive in their lives – something they can focus on now and look forward to in these unprecedented times.

Before moving forward with our annual summer camp program, Stage Right convened a panel of parent physicians, pediatricians, educators, nurses and lawyers to discuss the program. The program only continued with a firm plan for safety in place with the unanimous approval of this panel. To that end, Stage Right has committed to several safety protocols, all of which meet, and most which exceed, city/state/CDC guidelines in place at each point in the process. Below is a list of such procedures:

PRIOR TO CAMP:

- All enrolled families were given almost a month to unenroll from camp and receive a full refund for all amounts paid.
- All enrolled families were given a full outline of our safety plan to consider with their children to ensure students could comply with our requirements.
- All rehearsal facilities were sprayed with Proactive Protect – an viral disinfectant solution company utilizing nano-tech to protect surfaces for 30 days. This disinfectant not only kills viruses on contact, but prevents them from surviving on the surface for 30 days.
 - This disinfectant was sprayed on all rooms, chairs, bathrooms and surfaces students may come in contact with.
- Stage Right monitored the re-opening protocols for 11 counties where students may be coming from and complied with the most strict policies in place at each major date.
- Summer camp dates were adjusted to allow more time between the stay-at-home orders being lifted and the beginning of our camp programs.
- Communication with parents that if, at any time, restrictions are put back in place that would put our camps out of compliance, camps would be closed and the productions would not go forward as planned.
- Parents were informed that on the first day of camp students would receive a safety discussion from a medical professional about COVID-19, the concerns and safety.

DURING CAMP:

- Upon arrival all students are checked for masks, have their temperature taken with a no-contact thermometer and have to reply to 4 COVID-19 screening questions. If the student is younger than 6th grade, a parent or adult with knowledge of the child's health must answer these questions for the staff.
 - Any student with a temperature exceeding 100.4 will not be permitted to enter camp.
- If any student has come in contact with anyone testing positive for COVID-19, that student is not allowed at camp until the quarantine period has passed.
- All students & staff must wear masks during their entire day at camp – including all dance and music rehearsals.
 - This is strictly monitored by staff – including breaks where students are allowed to socialize.
- Students are asked not to hug or come into contact with another student unless absolutely necessary in full show rehearsals and if contact is made, they are asked to sanitize their hands. They are also asked to not bring unnecessary items from home.
- All students & staff must have their hands sanitized every hour and wash hands regularly.
- Choreography was modified wherever possible to reduce contact.
- Additional camper supervisors were hired to ensure younger campers comply with wearing masks at all times.
- Costumes are disinfected following standard disinfecting guidelines and not accessible to students unless required for a scene.
- Students and parents have reported positive emotional and mental health statuses for campers.

PERFORMANCES:

- Audience was limited to 38% capacity of theatre and parties were manually placed in seats using social distancing practices – there will not be general seating which would encourage gatherings in the lobby.
 - As of June 26, 2020, KCMO requires masks for public spaces, so audience members will be required to wear a mask for the duration of their time at the performance.
- Livestream options are in place for audience members who cannot safely see the production live.
- Parents and family members will not be allowed to meet with students after the performances in the lobby, rather students will change and leave the facility to meet friends and family outdoors.

With these safety protocols in place, Stage Right has exceeded every state, federal and CDC guideline for public interaction at this time in the counties that impact our customer base. The first camp began after the gathering limitations had been lifted, and given the requirements for

masks at our rehearsals, our policy has exceeded standards in place for public interaction – such as visiting cafes, parks and other public spaces – for the entire duration of camps to this point. Public health and safety are major concerns for the organization, as is the long-term mental health of our students.

Several parents have shared with executive staff that having students occupied at a place where masks are required has benefitted their family compared to students filling summer time with large group hangouts where masks were not worn. Our camps are monitored by adults focused on safety so parents can get back to work without fear of their children interacting in dangerous situations. Throughout this process, it has been vital to the executive team that we monitor guidelines, listen to the experts on a way to reintegrate society, provide our youth critical social interaction and help them learn to cope with a world changing around them.

On a more artistic note about the shows selected for this season, we have found that all three productions offer vital educational opportunities to help students emotionally cope with major world events shaking their lives and are uniquely suited to the age groups. While these shows were selected months before the pandemic, we believe in the power of art and found that these stories offer messages that could not be more fitting for their grades.

- *Les Misérables* is a classic story of forgiveness, listening to the voices of others, but also one of rebellion and finding your voice. In a time when our high school students are witnessing a global pandemic and a strong resurgence of the #BlackLivesMatter movement, as well as national criticism from every angle, this show has provided them context to process their emotions and beliefs. It gives context to the power of the people, while teaching students that you cannot know someone's entire story from one interaction. Empathy is critical to this age group on the cusp of adulthood.
- *Xanadu* is a quirky story from the 1980s, but at its core, it speaks to the power of art in a time of trial. Students are watching art save the world in many ways during this crisis. These middle schoolers were particularly engaged with artistic opportunities offered during the stay-at-home order. They took online dance classes from Broadway stars, learned to paint with world famous artists and learned choreography from Disney stars. Art helped keep our world moving forward and *Xanadu* is contextualizing that concept.
- *Frozen Jr.* is a story about the power of family – something our elementary school students have had a strong correlation with over the last few months with increased family time. By using this story of sisters with very different personalities, we are finding that young campers are better able to empathize with siblings during prolonged time together. For our youngest campers, this story also provides them context for the isolation they had experienced during the stay-at-home order designed to keep the at-risk population safe by telling a story of someone who lived isolated because of fear of hurting others.

These safety protocols have provided a safe, encouraging environment for students to slowly integrate back into society. If you have any questions about these procedures, we invite you to reach out to us at info@stagerightperformingarts.com.