



**Spring 2022
COVID-19 Guidance
Department of Music
Revised 3/14/2022**

I. Introduction

While all Furman University policies apply to the Department of Music, we have developed guidelines specific to certain activities within our department and Daniel Music Building because some of our activities generate aerosol particles which are invisible and may be infectious. These guidelines have been developed through a detailed review of the available scientific research, coordination with facilities management, and involve the collaboration of the department, COVID-19 Response Committee, and the Public Health and Safety Advisory Group. As the situation on and around campus evolves, this guidance may also change. Please check our website or with the department office for updates to these policies. For the purposes of these guidelines, aerosol-generating activities include singing, woodwind, and brass playing.

Faculty, staff, and students should not enter Daniel Music Building or participate in any Department of Music activity if they are symptomatic, have an active coronavirus infection, or are under investigation for a coronavirus infection until they have met Furman's criteria to return to campus. For students, that means they must be cleared to return by the Earle Student Health Center, and faculty and staff must follow the guidance of Human Resources.

While this guidance is directed specifically toward musical activity, students, faculty, and staff should follow all university, state, and local guidance to minimize the spread of COVID-19 within our community. It is important to recognize that any one person's choices may have a profound impact on others. Any exceptions to these guidelines must be approved by the chair's office.

With the recent change in masking requirements on campus, area coordinators, ensemble directors, the COVID Response Committee and the chair have been in conversation about the Department of Music. Rather than having fully separate and detailed guidance, as we do now, we will transition into greater alignment with general campus COVID requirements. (This decision can always be reversed, should conditions change.)

Faculty and staff who require or may qualify for reasonable accommodations based on a disability may work with the Human Resources to inquire about the ADA process. Students who require or may qualify for reasonable accommodations based on a disability may work with the Student Office for Accessibility Resources to inquire about the ADA process. Additionally,

students, faculty and/or staff may receive notification that masks are required in classrooms or other spaces on campus to reasonably accommodate a student or colleague's confidential disability.

During this transition, we will operate under a few additional requirements, as follows:

- Face masks will remain in place for Furman ensemble and chamber music rehearsals, as well as applied lessons (not including classrooms or academic classes) for one week post spring break.
- Faculty and staff may require that students and colleagues wear a mask when entering their office, studio, or when meeting individually. Likewise, students may ask faculty or staff to wear a mask when meeting with them individually.
- Faculty and students may not require a masked student to remove a face covering.
- Masking will be required for the students in Piano for Young People program
- For individuals who are required to wear a facemask due to contact tracing/quarantine guidance from Furman, they will need to wear a face covering (all instruments) and a bell cover (wind instruments) to remain in compliance with campus guidance.
- HEPA air cleaners will remain in use indefinitely, as they help keep the air clean apart from COVID (allergies, other viruses, etc.)

The guidance below takes full effect on March 21, 2022, after the above modifications to our earlier guidance expire on March 20.

II. Ensembles

- General
 - Indoor rehearsals may not exceed 50 minutes in one location, with 20-minute minimum room vacancy between occupancy to allow for adequate air exchange.
 - Singers, brass, and woodwind players must be distanced a minimum of 3' in each direction, except for opera staging. Strings, percussion, and keyboard players have no distancing restrictions.
 - Faculty/students are responsible for cleaning of music stands, piano keyboards, and other surfaces via disinfectant wipes.
- Bands and Orchestra
 - When students are playing indoors, they have the option of being masked and using bell covers on wind instruments. If opting to wear a face mask, it must fit properly and cover both mouth and nose when worn.
 - Wind and brass instrument bells should not be directed towards others.
 - Practice condensation valve hygiene. Furman will provide students with small, absorbent pads that can be disposed of after each rehearsal.
- Choirs/Opera
 - Singers must be distanced a minimum of 3' in each direction, except for opera staging.

III. **Applied Lessons**

- Strings, harp, percussion, piano, organ, composition
 - Teaching studios must accommodate social distancing of 3 ft.
 - Lessons may not exceed 60 minutes.
 - Faculty/students are responsible for cleaning of music stands, piano keyboards, and other surfaces via disinfectant wipes.
- Woodwinds and brass
 - When students are playing indoors, they may be masked and may use bell covers on wind instruments. If opting to wear a face mask, it must fit properly and cover both mouth and nose when worn.
 - Teaching studios must accommodate social distancing of 6 ft.
 - Lessons may not exceed 50 minutes.
 - 15-minute room vacancy is required between each lesson to allow for adequate air exchange.
 - Faculty/students are responsible for the cleaning of music stands, piano keyboards, and other surfaces via disinfectant wipes.
 - Practice condensation valve hygiene. Furman will provide students with small, absorbent pads that can be disposed of after each lesson.
 - Instrument bells should not be directed towards others.
- Voice
 - Teaching studios must accommodate social distancing of 6 ft.
 - Lessons may not exceed 50 minutes.
 - 15-minute room vacancy is required between each lesson to allow for adequate air exchange.
 - Faculty/students are responsible for cleaning of music stands, piano keyboards, and other surfaces via disinfectant wipes.

IV. **Studio classes**

- Studio classes are limited to 60 consecutive minutes in the same space.

V. **Classroom courses**

- Classrooms will operate at standard capacity.
- For sightsinging activities, singing may take place in class. Faculty may also conduct sightsinging exercises outdoors or collect examples via Box/Moodle.

VI. **Practice Rooms**

- Practice rooms are for practicing only, and reservations will again be made in two-hour blocks through SignUp Genius.
- Practice rooms have a maximum capacity of one person.
- If a HEPA unit is present, then the door should be left closed when you exit the space at the end of your practice session.
- The HEPA air cleaner should always be left on the medium setting during use and the highest setting when the room is vacant.
- Students are responsible for cleaning of music stands, piano keyboards, and other surfaces via disinfectant wipes.
- DO NOT bring stands from rehearsal halls into your practice rooms.

VII. **Recitals**

- For solo recitals (one performer plus pianist), performers may be unmasked on stage if the performer is asymptomatic or not under campus quarantine guidance to wear a facemask.

VIII. **Building Access**

- Invited Guests
 - Furman groups from outside the Dept. of Music may use facilities only with approval from the Department Chair, provided their use conforms to these guidelines.
 - Non-Furman groups may use facilities only with approval from the Department Chair and the COVID Response Committee (obtained by the chair), provided their use conforms to these guidelines at a minimum.
- Concert Attendance
 - All Furman Department of Music concerts in Daniel Recital Hall are streamed via our [YouTube channel](#).
- Recruiting activities
 - Faculty and staff may begin meeting with prospective students and families in person. Faculty should meet the guests at the door to help them find their way into the building.
 - There are no limitations for outdoor meetings with prospective students and families.
 - All sample lessons should conform to the above guidelines.
- Room Usage
 - All room usage must be reserved through the departmental office; rooms must not be used if they are not reserved.

IX. **Ventilation/Mechanical Systems**

- All campus spaces have been reviewed by Facility Services for ventilation to ensure adequate air exchange and increased input of fresh air.
- Supplemental mechanical solutions such as HEPA air cleaners and higher efficiency air filters will be installed where necessary. These HEPA air cleaners must be kept running continuously on at least the medium setting and must not be moved from their assigned location.