

## **Covid Information for Holland Chorale Meeting September 2021**

### **1. Singer Survey Summary Results: (also see additional full survey)**

Will you still participate with a mask mandate?

3 - no

1 - not sure

35 - yes

Would You Participate if vaccination is required?

3 - no

35 - yes

1 - no answer

How about if it is NOT required?

16 - no, unsure, or lean to no

20 - yes

3 - unanswered

Are fully vaccinated?

2 - no

1 - n/a

36 - yes

### **2. Statement from St. Cecilia Society**

We have updated our policy and attendance requirements for upcoming performances at St. Cecilia Music Center.

SCMC will require proof of fully-vaccinated status, or a negative COVID test taken within 48 hours, to attend a concert at our venue. In areas with substantial and high transmission, the CDC recommends that everyone (including fully vaccinated individuals) wear a mask in public indoor settings to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, especially the Delta variant, and to protect others. To that end, SCMC is also highly recommending that all attendees wear a mask while in the building. Attendees will need to bring photo ID and proof of vaccination, or negative test, the night of a concert.

This will take effect for our first show of the 2021-22 season with Sam Bush on October 6, 2021 and will be in effect until further notice.

All staff, volunteers and artists entering the venue are required to be fully vaccinated as well. This policy is in line with many other venues, presenters, promoters and artists and is meant to ensure, as best we can, that live music returns to the stage this season.

We will continue to monitor the COVID environment and may change policies at any time, if necessary. Please note that individual artists may issue mandated mask requirements, and we will honor their request. All ticket holders will be notified if mandatory mask requirements are in effect for a particular show by an artist.

If you have tickets to an upcoming performance and are unwilling or unable to abide by this policy, please contact our box office for a refund at [kelly@scmc-online.org](mailto:kelly@scmc-online.org) a minimum of 48 hours prior to the concert date.

Thank you for helping us create the safest environment possible inside our concert venue. It will help us bring music, and audiences, back to SCMC.

### **3. Grand Rapids Symphony Statement**

We are excited to welcome you back to LIVE performances of the Grand Rapids Symphony! We care very much about the health and safety of our patrons, orchestra musicians, staff, and guest artists. We have taken strides to carefully plan for a safe and healthy environment for everyone to be able to experience live music in the DeVos Performance Hall.

In preparation for our season, we have updated our policies and attendance requirements as follows:

- ◆ Audience members 12 years of age or older will be required to show proof of fully vaccinated status. The last dose of the vaccine must have been administered at least 14 days before concert admission.
- ◆ In the absence of such proof of vaccination, a negative COVID-19 test administered within 48 hours of concert attendance is required for anyone 12 years of age or older.
- ◆ Masks covering the mouth and nose are required for all audience members (of all ages) while on the premises and during performances.
- ◆ The DeVos Performance Hall doors will open two hours before the start of all concerts to allow you ample time to get past vaccine, test, and security checkpoints, as well as will call and ticketing.

The DeVos Performance Hall is following federal, state and city health and safety guidelines. New measures include an HVAC system upgrade with bipolar ionization equipment, optimal MERV-rating filters installation, and enhanced cleaning procedures. Coat check is currently unavailable. Backpacks, large bags, suitcases, and purses are not allowed—small clutches are allowed.

Drinking fountains not operational. For more information about DeVos Performance Hall requirements, please go to [devosperformancehall.com/p/visit/faqs](https://devosperformancehall.com/p/visit/faqs)

Given the evolving nature of COVID-19 trends, we will continue to closely monitor CDC guidance throughout the season. Policy and procedure changes will be communicated in a timely and transparent way. For more detail about health and safety guidelines, please visit [GRSymphony.org/safety](https://GRSymphony.org/safety).

Please note: To give you peace of mind when purchasing concert tickets in advance, we are suspending our usual refund policies effective now until May 31, 2022, and will allow refunds of any tickets up until 24 hours before your scheduled performance.

#### **4. Cincinnati Men's Chorus - participant waiver**

##### Cincinnati Men's Chorus

##### Participant Waiver of Liability, Including as Related to the CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

I derive personal satisfaction and benefit by virtue of my participation in Cincinnati Men's Chorus ("CMC") activities, such as rehearsals, performances, retreats, social events, and other functions (collectively, "functions"). In consideration of the opportunity for me to participate or attend a function, I agree as follows:

I acknowledge that the Coronavirus/COVID-19 is contagious, and that public health authorities recommend practicing social distancing to avoid exposure to the virus. I understand that I may increase my risk of exposure to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 by participating in CMC functions, whether outdoors or inside a building. I acknowledge that CMC makes no guarantee that I will not become infected with the Coronavirus/COVID-19 if I choose to participate in a CMC function. I assume all risk associated with participation if I choose to participate in a CMC function.

I will not participate in a CMC function if any of the following apply to me:

- I experience any symptom of illness related to Coronavirus/COVID-19 such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell, or
- I have traveled within 14 days prior to the function to any location within or outside of the United States of America that has a significant Coronavirus/COVID-19 infection rate, or
- I believe I have been exposed to someone with a suspected and/or confirmed case of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 within 14 days prior to the function, or
- I have been diagnosed with Coronavirus/Covid-19 and not yet cleared as non-contagious by my physician, or a State or local public health authority.

I further acknowledge that, if I participate in a CMC function, I do so voluntarily.

I hereby release, waive, and forever discharge any and all liability, claims, and demands of whatever kind or nature against the CMC and its affiliated partners and sponsors, including in each case, without limitation, their directors, officers, board members, employees, volunteers, members, and agents (collectively, the “Released Parties”), in law and in equity, to the fullest extent permissible by law, including but not limited to damages or losses caused by the negligence, fault, failure to act, or conduct of any kind on the part of the Released Parties, including but not limited to death, bodily injury, illness, economic loss or out of pocket expense, or loss or damage to property, which I, my heirs, assigns, next of kin, and/or legally appointed or designated representatives, may have or which may accrue on my behalf, which arise from my participation in a CMC function.

I have read this waiver of liability and assumption of risk, I fully understand its terms, I sign it freely, and I understand that my signature means I have given a full release of liability to the Released Parties to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Signature:

Printed Name:

Date:

## **5. Statements & Guidelines from Holland Symphony**

(see last pages for letter & vaccination policy for Holland Symphony)

From Holland Symphony Updates:

We are grateful for your support through donations, ticket purchases and many encouraging words.

HSO will follow the procedures set by the State of Michigan, the Ottawa County Health Dept. and Hope College regarding Covid 19 protocol. We seek to keep our patrons informed.

Masks will be required at HSO concerts. Currently, Hope College is requiring all individuals to mask in all of their indoor spaces. To be consistent, we are asking everyone to mask starting with the Classics Up Close concert. Masks will be provided if needed. We will continue to reevaluate this policy as conditions change.

- If you asked HSO to print your e-tickets, your first stop will be the “Season Ticket Pick Up” table. All your season tickets will be stapled together. We will scan the square QR code to admit you to the concert. We do not need to keep the paper ticket.
- If you are using your phone, find the Tix email ahead of time and click on the yellow box that says, “View/Print Tickets.” That will save a lot of time in line. HSO will re-send the ticket links a couple days before the concert.

- If you printed your own tickets, please bring them to the concert!
- The ushers will have lists of everyone who bought a ticket ahead of time, just in case!
- If you want to purchase a ticket at the door, go to the ticket booth.
- With this new system, it would be helpful if you arrive a few minutes early. Eventually this system will be faster than our old system, but we will all need a little time to get used to it.
- Your paper program will look different from now on! You will receive one page with information about the pieces and people featured in the concert. To save paper and reduce commonly touched surfaces, HSO is switching most of its program book information to an online format. The interactive program for the Classics Up Close concert is available at this link: <https://hollandsymphony.org/events/classics-up-close-5/> Here you will find all the information that you usually get in the program book—and more! Check out the interactive program notes under the “program notes” tab. Read about the soloist under the “bios” tab. Click on the logos on the bottom of the program page to learn more about the businesses that support HSO
- The concerts will be available for viewing online soon after the concert (not live-streamed). After our audio and video crew have done the necessary editing, the concert video will be available for a two week window on an unlisted YouTube channel. Only ticket holders will have access to this video. Look for more info shortly after the concert date.  
Thank you for your patience as we try some new things and adapt to concerts in a pandemic. We are so excited to see you and be “Together Again!”

(Continued on next pages....)



September 8, 2021

Holland Symphony Orchestra Musicians,

After high hopes of being “Together Again” without the fears of Covid 19<sup>th</sup> issues, Holland Symphony Board of Directors has pivoted yet again with the severity of the new Delta variant and feels it is necessary to adopt a vaccination protocol for the health and safety of our musicians and audience. The decision has been approved by the HSO Board of Directors and reviewed by an attorney. HSO will require proof of vaccination for all musicians participating in the orchestra as of Classics I on September 25, 2021, effective as of the first rehearsal on September 14<sup>th</sup>. (Wind and Brass musicians will be distanced at for Classics Up Close Concert and strings/percussion will wear masks.) Audience members will be required to wear masks.

We realize this is a difficult decision and that there are many reasons why people choose either to be vaccinated or not to be vaccinated. However, with many members of our orchestra with young children not able to be vaccinated, members with pre-existing conditions, and the severity of this variant, health and safety is of paramount concern to both musicians, their families, and the audience.

If you choose to **not be vaccinated, your position will be suspended for all concerts starting with Classics I**, as of September 14<sup>th</sup> first rehearsal and held for one season. We will reexamine the ever-changing issues of the pandemic on a regular basis. Please let Judy know if you are not vaccinated. This information will be kept in confidence.

If you are **vaccinated, please send Judy a scanned copy of your vaccine card** with your name clearly visible. Please do this as quickly as possible because rehearsals for Classics I begin on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Judy Meyer is responsible for administering and enforcing this protocol. Contact her at: 616-403-6697, [jmeyer@hollandsymphony.org](mailto:jmeyer@hollandsymphony.org)

#### **Requests for Exemptions / Accommodations**

To assist any Musician who wants to be considered to participate as a Musician in the 2021-2022 HSO Season but who is disabled, pregnant, a nursing mother, has a medical condition or medical reason that prevents the Musician from receiving (or is a contraindication to) the vaccination, or who objects to being vaccinated based on sincerely held religious beliefs, observances, or practices, HSO will accept requests to determine if a reasonable exemption / accommodation may be granted by HSO, so long as it does not create an undue hardship for HSO and/or does not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of the Musician or others on stage or in the production areas. Requests for an exemption / accommodation should be made to Judy Meyer. Musicians may request an accommodation / exemption without fear of retaliation or intimidation by HSO.

If you have further questions or concerns about this protocol announcement, please feel free to contact [kwalvoord@hollandsymphony.org](mailto:kwalvoord@hollandsymphony.org) or Judy Meyer at [jmeyer@hollandsymphony.org](mailto:jmeyer@hollandsymphony.org). The office phone number is 616-796-6780 and is forwarded to Kay’s cell phone.

We certainly hope that even with continuing covid issues, we can hold live concerts and be somewhat “Together Again”.

Kay Walvoord  
President & CEO

Judy Meyer  
Operations & Personnel Manager

**Holland Symphony Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Protocol**  
**Musicians**  
**(Last Updated: September 7, 2021)**

**Purpose and Scope**

Holland Symphony Orchestra (“HSO”) desires to provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment and take steps to help protect the health and well-being of its musicians and greater community from contracting and spreading COVID-19. This Protocol is implemented in consideration of health and safety guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), the Ottawa County Health Department, and other public health authorities. This Protocol applies to contractor musicians of HSO and conductor, as well as guest artists and guest conductors of HSO (“Musicians”). This Protocol will be periodically reviewed by HSO and used in conjunction with other COVID-19 prevention measures.

**Vaccination Protocol**

Each Musician who wants to be considered by HSO to perform during the 2021-2022 HSO Season must (1) establish he/she has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or (2) obtain an approved accommodation / exemption (see below). For the purposes of this Protocol, a Musician is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or one dose of a single-dose vaccination. Vaccine is available at medical providers and pharmacies throughout Ottawa County and Kent County, Michigan.<sup>1</sup>

Musicians who are, or choose to be, fully vaccinated should provide written proof of vaccination from the vaccine administrator or a completed CDC issued COVID-19 vaccination card (with your name clearly visible) for inspection to Judy Meyer, HSO Operations Manager ([jmeyer@hollandsymphony.org](mailto:jmeyer@hollandsymphony.org)). There is no need to provide information other than proof of vaccination. HSO will treat copies of the proof of vaccination it receives as confidential. Individuals who are not, and choose not to be, fully vaccinated (and who have not obtained an approved accommodation / exemption) will not be considered to participate as a Musician in the 2021-2022 HSO Season.

**Requests for Exemptions / Accommodations**

To assist any Musician who wants to be considered to participate as a Musician in the 2021-2022 HSO Season but who is disabled, pregnant, a nursing mother, has a medical condition or medical reason that prevents the Musician from receiving (or is a contraindication to) the vaccination, or who objects to being vaccinated based on sincerely held religious beliefs, observances, or practices, HSO will accept requests to determine if a reasonable exemption / accommodation may be granted by HSO, so long as it does not create an undue hardship for HSO and/or does not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of the Musician or others on stage or in the production areas. Requests for an exemption / accommodation should be made to Judy Meyer. Musicians may request an accommodation / exemption without fear of retaliation or intimidation by HSO.

**Questions**

Judy Meyer is responsible for administering and enforcing this Protocol. If there are any questions about this Protocol or about health and safety issues that are not addressed in this Protocol, please contact Judy Meyer (616-796-6780).

*This Protocol is intended to comply with all applicable laws and regulations, and if inconsistent, shall be deemed amended to comply with all such obligations. This Protocol shall not be construed as a promise that HSO will have any rehearsal, performance, or other event, or that any person will be permitted to participate in any HSO event. This Protocol is not a contract between HSO and any other party and does not create an employment relationship. HSO expressly reserves the right, from time to time in its discretion and with or without prior notice, to amend, modify, change, or delete this Protocol, and (notwithstanding any language to the contrary) reserves and maintains all rights it has under applicable law with respect to the subject matter of this Protocol.*

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<sup>1</sup> More information about COVID-19 vaccines and the vaccine approval process is available and frequently updated on the CDC's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/> and on the FDA's website at <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines>.