

Coronavirus: Transition Phase

Reopening for physical lessons and practice.



For now, as so much of society is in flux, we are calling this a “Period of Transition” phase of *physically* re-opening Universal Music Center. This will be a transition into the “new normal” of mask wearing, disinfecting, social distancing, and other MDH and CDC recommended measures. With the present circumstances in constant flux, we are prepared to monitor the situation and amend as needed, and we will work to accommodate and comply with all Executive Orders and recommendations. Additionally, we will continue to implement our online lesson program for anyone who prefers to utilize that platform for music education.

As soon as it is safe and possible to implement, we will begin to offer 1:1 in-person lessons at Universal Music Center. The ²MN Department of Health (MDH) suggests that specialty teachers (music, art, etc.) can maintain safe spaces by controlling the environment. Here is what we will be doing to prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff as we move into “new normal.”

We are asking for your cooperation to protect yourself and others!

1. STAY HOME: If the student or student’s guardian/guest is feeling any illness or Coronavirus symptoms, please stay home, get tested if possible, and consider using our online lesson program. If you need to cancel a lesson or string of lessons due to illness, you will not be penalized. As of the date of this plan publication, ¹Center for Disease Control (CDC) symptom list is as follows:

- Fever
- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Chills and shaking
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste/smell

If you are unsure, and are unable to get tested, practice “better safe than sorry.”

2. SOCIAL DISTANCING: The ²MDH defines “social distancing” as follows: *Social distancing refers to measures being taken to restrict where and when people can gather in order to stop or slow the spread of infectious disease. In general, 6 feet of separation is the distance that should be kept between people interacting within their community.*

In accordance with MDH and CDC guidelines, we will remind students to practice “no-touch” greetings, to utilize hand sanitizer, and maintain 6 feet of distance from others in the facility. For extra precaution, our instructors will be wearing masks, and we ask our students and guests to wear masks as well. Please provide your own mask.



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During your lesson slot, we will allow ONLY the student and one other person into our facility, along with the instructor. This will provide ample space for social distancing, as well as allow the instructor and other staff to manage the necessary disinfecting processes.

Our studios will be equipped with Plexiglas dividers, to ensure safe space when 6 feet isn't feasible, and when students and instructors need to "de-mask" for lesson purposes. According to the ²MDH recommendations for school facilities, this flexibility from 6 feet distancing is acceptable.

Our instructors will utilize writing utensils dedicated to their person, and other often "shared" office materials. We ask our students to also dedicate such items as necessary, and to not bring any "non-essentials" into the space during this time.

3. DISENFECTIONING: The ^{3,4}CDC recommends that school facilities use the following guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting: *Cleaning should be done around all areas, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment, touch screens, keyboards, handles, etc. Open doors and windows for clean air and circulation.*

In accordance with these guidelines, we will disinfect all surfaces and equipment, including doorknobs, instruments, tables and surfaces, electronic devices, keyboards, and anything specifically touched by a student or instructor. This will be done on a lesson-by-lesson basis as well as a daily basis. Windows and doors will be opened to promote air circulation on a daily basis.

¹Hand washing and hygiene habits are imperative to combating the spread of coronavirus. As UMC does not have running water in our building, we will be providing hand sanitizer and disinfecting spray/wipes at all times. Our off-site lavatory facility will be available and stocked with antibacterial soap as well.

Resources:

¹https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fsymptoms.html

²<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/socialdistance.pdf>

³<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>

⁴<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>

