The Federal Government and the State of Minnesota will be extending the COVID emergency until April 11, 2023. COVID rates have remained LOW in the metro area since January 1, 2023. Due to these recent changes in COVID policy and low infection rates, we will be adjusting Interact COVID guidelines. These new guidelines are subject to change depending on surges, new variants, new state and federal COVID policies and COVID rates in the seven-county metro area. We will revisit Interact COVID guidelines should metro area counties move into MEDIUM or HIGH rates of infection.

**COVID Vaccinations**

The vaccination mandate for Interact Artists will no longer be in effect as of April 1, 2023. We will continue to have a vaccination mandate for Interact staff and guest artists. Interact encourages artists and staff to get vaccinated and stay up to date with boosters. We will request that unvaccinated guests at Interact wear a mask.

**Masking**

Interact will be moving to a mask optional policy effective May 1, 2023. Staff, artists and visitors will not be required to wear a mask. Masks will remain an option for those that wish to wear them. Anyone who is symptomatic or that is exposed to someone with COVID should wear a mask and must test negative for three days before unmasking at the center. Interact will provide KN95 masks to those that request them.

**Ventilation**

Interact has installed higher rated MERV filters in our HVAC system and will be installing UV-C lighting in the system in the coming weeks. We will also be replacing our HVAC filters more frequently. UV-C is being used as an effective way to eliminate the COVID virus from HVAC systems. Upgrades in ventilation should provide a new measure of safety in our building.

**Testing**

Through December 31, 2023 Interact will provide testing If an individual is symptomatic or exposed to COVID.

Interact productions may need to do testing of company members should we contract with union professionals whose unions require testing. Information about those procedures will be shared with the company, Interact staff and Interact Artists when appropriate.

**Exposure/Quarantine**

If an individual is exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID they should monitor for symptoms, mask for three days and test negative for three days before unmasking at the center.
If an individual is symptomatic, they should isolate and get tested for COVID.

**Positive COVID Test**
If an individual tests positive for COVID they should isolate for up to 5 days. Once the individual has tested negative, they can return to activity. Day one should start on the first day of symptoms.

**Interact Employee COVID time off**
Interact will continue to offer employees up to 5 days off (or the flexibility to work remotely) due to a COVID infection/positive COVID test. Those days should be reported but will not count toward sick time that has been accrued.