

Sarasota Opera House COVID19 Statement

The arts and cultural organizations of Sarasota County comprise one of the three largest employment sectors of the community. An increasing number of patrons and artists are extremely uncomfortable participating without strong health and safety protocols in place. The failure to secure robust audiences or top artists puts these arts organizations in danger of once again closing their doors, jeopardizing thousands of jobs and millions of dollars the arts infuse into the community each year.

The companies signed below will uphold vigilant health and safety protocols for the protection of our community, patrons, artists, and staff and to maintain the economic stability of our institutions. Therefore, effective September 26, 2021, we will uniformly implement the following policy:

- All patrons aged 12 and older attending a performance indoors must show either:
 - A negative PCR COVID-19 test administered by a medical provider/official testing center no earlier than 72 hours before the time of their performance OR
 - A negative rapid antigen COVID-19 test administered by a medical provider/official testing center no earlier than 24 hours prior to the time of their performance. Home testing kit results will not be accepted for entry.
- Both physical and electronic presentation of documents will be accepted. Photo identification must accompany the presentation all documents.
- If patrons prefer, CDC or other official vaccination record showing the patrons are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (at least 14 days since the final dose) may be voluntarily presented at the door as an acceptable alternative to negative COVID-19 test results.
- All patrons over age 5 regardless of vaccination/testing status must wear masks over their nose and mouth at all times while inside the venue.

Protocols will be revisited and may be revised based on CDC guidance and the evolving circumstances of the pandemic, including use of additional screening protocols. Please check individual websites of the arts organizations for details of protocols and refund policies. Be assured we are taking similar and additional pandemic precautions with our artists, staff, crews, and vendors.