

## **Parkside Academy of Music and Dance COVID-19 Reopening Plan**

The staff at Parkside Academy of Music and Dance is committed to providing every student with a quality dance and music education in a positive and caring environment. Due to COVID-19 the following procedures will be implemented at PAMD for our 2021-2022 dance season. We will continue to communicate regularly with our PAMD families to be sure that all necessary and up-to-date information is being shared in order for us to provide a great dance education, while keeping everyone in our community safe and healthy.

We have worked diligently to update our COVID-19 Reopening Plan. The policies, procedures and protocols listed below are subject to change as the guidelines and regulations issued by the PA Secretary of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) evolve. All appropriate CDC signage has been posted at the entrances, exits, bathrooms and throughout the studio to instruct students on how to stop the spread of COVID-19. Students will be required to wear masks, practice social distancing, cough into their elbow and wash and sanitize hands properly. We also strongly recommend anyone with underlying medical conditions or health risks that put them at a higher risk for severe illness, limit themselves to ZOOM classes only.

### **Air Filtration and Sanitation Procedures**

We will continue to utilize our HEPA air purification systems, one for each studio. These systems are certified by FCC, ETL and CARB. These systems will help to remove contaminants from the air in the spaces where our student will be dancing. The staff will also open the windows of the studio for cross ventilation purposes, weather permitting.

Bathroom will be fully stocked with spray sanitizer for sanitation after each use and soap for proper hand-washing. All dancers and staff must wash or sanitize hands after sneezing, blowing their noses or coughing. The studio will be professionally cleaned daily and will undergo a deep cleaning weekly to ensure the safety of our students, staff and families. As a reminder, the studio bathroom is for emergencies only and all dancers should use the bathroom at home prior to arrival.

### **Paperwork and Payment Options**

Please note that participating in “in-studio” classes is completely at your own discretion and as such all students/families are required to sign our **COVID-19 Waiver, Medical Release** and other **PAMD Official Handbook Agreement Forms** prior to beginning classes in the studio. **We will not be allowing students to enter the building without all completed paperwork.** Forms from the 2020-2021 dance season are no longer

valid.

All paperwork will be sent electronically via email so the office MUST have an active email address on file for each family. Please make sure to check your spam folder if you are not receiving our emails. For the safety of our staff and PAMD community, we are limiting payment methods to those that require less contact. We strongly encourage all families to pay their tuition and fees directly through our webpage, with a card over the phone, or via our Venmo account, *Pamela-Dimeler*. Checks can also be mailed to or dropped off at the studio.

### **Class Protocols & ZOOM Options**

Even though our PAMD community members have missed one another, we will continue to limit contact with one another and will enforce social distancing when possible. Please discuss safe social distancing with your child prior to their first dance class and remind them often. Class sizes will not be reduced for the 2021-2022 season. We will also continue to monitor CDC guidelines and capacity standards as they may result in the need to move instruction entirely online.

ZOOM will still be offered for all classes to any student interested in attending class virtually. Individual ZOOM links will be sent out prior to the first class. Please save the link in a note or word document so that you have it in case you need it for future use. If a student is feeling ill, or has to quarantine they will be required to attend class via ZOOM.

### **Waiting Room**

For our 2021-2022 dance season, the foyer/waiting room/changing room and common areas will still be closed. Family members must wait outside in their cars instead of inside the studio. Parents are permitted to watch their child's class via ZOOM, but must keep both their microphone and video off.

### **Before You Leave Home**

We are asking that all of our students and families conduct a health check at home prior to leaving for the studio. If you or your dancer are experiencing any of the following symptoms of COVID-19, you will need to stay home. These include: fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher), chills, muscle pain or body aches, headache or confusion, difficulty staying awake or waking up, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, congestion or runny nose, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. If you need to stay home you may still take the class via zoom! In addition, if you have traveled to any areas where the state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases, you will need to take zoom classes for a two week period following

your trip.

We are asking that all students use the bathroom prior to leaving home. The studio bathroom will be used for emergencies only and students must wash hands as well as sanitize before reentering the studio space. Students will also not be allowed to use the bathroom for getting changed. All students need to arrive at the studio dressed in proper dance attire.

Students should pack a personal water bottle or multiple water bottles. They will not have the ability to drink from the sink or refill their own water bottles at the studio. We recommend that you use a reusable and labeled water bottle, since plastic water bottles tend to get easily mixed up.

Students will be limited to one small dance bag to carry their belongings. We are asking all students to be mindful and limit the personal items they bring to the following: their dance shoes, a hand sanitizer to keep in their bag for personal use, water in a reusable bottle, required props, and jackets if there is inclement weather. Please do not pack any food. NO FOOD will be permitted in the studio, at any time, until further notice.

### **Drop Off Procedures**

We will be following similar procedures as our last dance season. Please keep in mind that all drop off and pick up procedures are subject to change.

All students will enter and exit the building through the front door. Please arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the start of your dancer's class. If you arrive earlier please stay in your car as we do not want to cause congestion while the classes prior are exiting the building. Once it is time for your dancer to enter the building we ask that they put on their mask and go to the front studio door. We will not be conducting temperature checks however, each student will need to sanitize upon arrival. If the class is not ready to begin, the student may proceed downstairs to wait on socially distanced markers.

We understand that students under the age of 6 that are still getting acquainted with the studio, as well as our drop off procedures, might experience some anxiety being dropped off at the door. For these instances we will allow one parent, wearing a mask, to escort the child into the building and into their class. As soon as that child can attend class independently, the parent/guardian will be asked to follow the studio's drop off and pick up procedures.

### **Pick Up Procedures**

Parents or guardians of students over the age of **10** should wait in their cars for their

child to be dismissed, however they can walk to the door only if wearing a mask. Parents or guardians of dancers under the age of **10** must pick their child up from the door where they were dropped off. We also ask these parents to wear masks while doing so. Parents or guardians should wait on the sidewalk, grass, in the parking lot area etc. while being mindful of maintaining appropriate distances from one another.

At the conclusion of classes, students under the age of **10** will be escorted out of the building through the same door they entered by a PAMD staff member. If you are running early, please wait in your car. If you are running late, please call the office to let us know.

### **Social Distancing in the Studio**

All students will be assigned a socially distant dance spot. Students will have a spot marked on the floor as to where they should place their dance bags. The ballet barres will be sectioned off in appropriate distances as well.

### **Masks**

Masks will be mandatory during class, when entering the building, using the bathroom and leaving the building. Dancers should always have a clean, spare facial covering secured in their dance bag in the event that the one they have on becomes too damp or breaks. It is recommended that your spare facial covering be housed in its own closed compartment rather than placed freely in the dance bag to keep it clean.

Masks with exhalation valves or vents will not be permitted. This type of mask does not prevent the person wearing the mask from transmitting COVID-19 and is not recommended by the CDC. The CDC also does not recommend the use of face shields as a substitute for masks. We understand that facial coverings may be difficult for younger students to keep on. We will continue to highly encourage them to wear their facial covering and we ask that you practice with them at home as well.

### **Shoes**

In order to help prevent the spread of germs, we are asking that all students wear the appropriate dance shoes for their classes. Modern dancers who used to wear foot undeez, turners or danced barefoot, will be required to wear ballet or jazz shoes. There will be no barefeet or socks in the studio at this time.

### **Staff Safety Protocols**

All of the PAMD staff will be trained on new health and safety protocols and their

responsibilities in managing their classes and studio spaces. The staff will be responsible for sanitizing and disinfecting high-touch surfaces including but not limited to barres, doorknobs, and railings between each class. There will also be hand sanitizer available throughout the studio for all dancers.

All staff will comply with mask wearing, social distancing and hand-washing protocols and will not be allowed to enter the building if experiencing any of the pre-screen symptoms listed here: fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher), cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing. They will not be permitted to enter the building if they are experiencing 2 or more of the following symptoms: chills, muscle pain or body aches, headache or confusion, difficulty staying awake or waking up, congestion or runny nose, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. Classes will be held either via zoom or with a substitute depending on how quickly we can get information to parents/guardians.

Staff will also make any necessary curriculum changes that ensure their dancers can maintain social distancing and mask requirements at all times.

### **In Case of Sickness**

We ask that you notify us immediately if you or someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19. We also ask that you and your dancer stay home and attend class(es) via ZOOM for two weeks to protect the health of our dance community. We will not share your specific information with anyone but will want to inform all families that may have been exposed through contact tracing. If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in our dance community we will follow the CDC guidelines required for disinfecting our facility and reopening in a safe manner. If a dancer does test positive for COVID-19 we will require a medical note indicating the dancer has fully recovered and a new test has found them negative, before allowing entry back into the studio.

*Last Updated August 30, 2021*

### ***PARKSIDE ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DANCE COVID 19 RELEASE FORM Student's Last***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Students' First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Parent or

Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Class Day/Time or

Level: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, the above referenced student who is enrolling as a student at Parkside Academy of Music and Dance located in Parkside, Pennsylvania for the 2021- 2022 School Year for dancing and/or music instruction.

Attached to this Release is the Parkside Academy of Music and Dance's Re-Opening Plan for the upcoming school year referenced above with respect to COVID-19 and the detailed schools in place safety precautions and

instructions to parents/guardians of the said student. Said attached Re-opening Plan is hereby incorporated herein to this Release by reference as though set forth in full (hereinafter referred to as Plan).

By signing this Release you are, amongst other things, acknowledging that you have received a full copy of said Plan, that you as a Parent or Guardian of the above referenced student, have read and understood its terms and required conditions that will be imposed to insure the safety of the students, their parents or guardians and the teachers and staff of Parkside Academy.

### **RELEASE**

As parent(s)/ Guardian(s) of the above-named student(s), I/we release and discharge, and for myself/ourselves and the aforesaid student and for my/our heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, do hereby remise, release and forever discharge:

**PARKSIDE ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DANCE, ITS EMPLOYEES. AGENT, REPRESENTATIVES AND STAFF** hereinafter referred to as the releasees, his/her/their/its heirs, executors, administrators, insurers, successors and assigns, and any and all other persons, firms, corporations, associations of and from any and all causes of action, suits, rights, judgments, claims and demands of whatsoever kind, in law or in equity, known and unknown, including punitive damages, which I/we now have or may hereafter have, especially the claimed legal liability of releasees arising from or by reason of any and all bodily or personal injuries and/or property damage and/or punitive damages known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen which heretofore has/have been or which thereafter may be sustained by me/us, especially as it pertains to the potential exposure to or being tested positive for or the resulting sickness from the **Covid-19 Virus**, arising out of the aforementioned student(s) attending Parkside Academy of Music and Dance for the prescribed dance instruction.

In the event any action is brought by any Party to enforce this Release Agreement, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, in addition to all other relief to which the Party may be entitled. This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with and governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Any action brought to enforce this Agreement shall be brought in the appropriate Pennsylvania Court having proper jurisdiction and venue.

Intending to be legally bound thereby, **WITNESS** my/our hand(s) and seal(s) this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

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**Parent/Guardian Date**

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**Witness Date**