



Fall 2020 Reopening FAQs

Submitted by RSC Families

Q: How will we be informed if community members are diagnosed with or suspected of having COVID-19?

A: In the circumstance of a reported COVID-19 positive student or teacher, all potentially exposed facility areas and equipment will be closed until professionally cleaned & disinfected. Those who have had contact with the infected person will be notified by RSC staff and asked to self-quarantine.

Q: Can parents/guardians wait on campus during RYO rehearsals or other activities?

Unfortunately, there will be no parent waiting room on-campus, and parents will not be allowed to congregate in hallways, stairways, or the lobby area. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes; please know that this decision has been made solely with our community's safety in mind. Parents/guardians may wait in their cars, as long as they are able to find a parking spot.

Q: Will there be a discount for those taking remote lessons?

We are not offering discounts for remote lessons, nor have we raised tuition for this school year. We have put a great deal of time and effort into improving the virtual lesson experience, and these lessons have turned out to be as valuable as in-person lessons to the student. In fact, it takes teachers more time to prepare for virtual lessons than for in-person lessons. Additionally, students studying online will still have the opportunity to take part in workshops and student recitals, albeit remotely.

Q: What's the criteria the program considers appropriate to implement a full remote option?

The decision as to whether the school will revert to full remote learning will be made in collaboration with health experts and local authorities.

Q: Will the chamber groups ever change during the year?

A: We encourage students to remain with the same groups throughout the year to allow for a more in-depth exploration of interpretation and performance. However, decisions about potential changes to chamber ensembles will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Q: Will it be held against students (attendance-wise) if they stay home out of caution?

We encourage students to stay home when they are not feeling well or have been exposed to someone with a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19. In this situation, the usual make-up policy will apply. As always, students should communicate with their teacher regarding the cancellation.

For students who choose to study remotely for the duration of the semester, this decision will not be held against them in any way. We have decided to reopen on a hybrid model this fall precisely to respect the diverse needs and comfort levels of our students, families, and faculty.

Q: How do new students sign up for private lessons?

To set up an interview with the Director, please contact the main office at music@rivers.org or 781-235-6840. We accept new students for private lessons on a rolling basis.

Q: Can I change my preferred lesson format from the style I initially signed up for?

Yes. You may switch from in-person to remote or vice versa if your comfort level changes during the course of the semester, as long as your teacher is on-board.

Q: Who can I contact with additional questions?

First, we recommend you visit www.riversschoolconservatory.org/covid19 to see if your question has been answered in the Reopening Plan, tutorials, and announcements on our website. If you still need help, please email music@rivers.org or call 781-235-6840. All of us in the office are here to help!