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# **2021 MONASH YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL**

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## **DRAFT COVID-19 PLAN**

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**DRAFT MARCH 2021**

## **MONASH YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2021 COVID PLAN**

The organisation will follow the advice from the Victorian Government Chief Health Officer and ensure that all the steps that the organisation takes reinforce hygiene practices and physical distancing, and introduce strict processes to be followed if any of our client groups show symptoms of COVID-19. We will continue to work in conjunction with The Huntingtower School to meet the relevant Government requirements that are in force at the time of the event.

In order to ensure that we are able to run the 2021 Monash Youth Music Festival we have set out these simple guidelines for everyone to follow. This plan may be updated at any time, to ensure compliance with any changes to Government rules, guidelines and policies associated with COVID-19. Changes to the plan will be communicated to all parties involved with the Festival.

Masks are encouraged but this may change and entry is on condition of an awareness of this. Social distancing within our event must be adhered to, as per current COVID requirements.

It is important to acknowledge that these measures may seem extreme to some and appeal to others, but the reality is that we need everyone to adhere to them in order to operate a successful festival. **Being Covid safe is a shared responsibility.**

The document has been divided into a number of areas surrounding the Festival:

1. Check-in and ticket sales
2. Marshalling, backstage and warm up areas
3. Auditorium, audience and awards
4. General considerations

This document acts as our action plan for the maintenance of a safe performance environment for our young people in this current climate.

Please assist us by adhering to our guidelines, ensuring a safe and happy experience for everyone involved.

### **1. CHECK IN AND TICKET SALES**

Audience members are strictly limited to two guests per performer.

- All persons entering any Festival venue must **sanitise** their hands on arrival.
- All persons entering any Festival venue must **check-in** by using the Monash Youth Music Festival's Service Victoria **QR Code** (posted on walls around the Registration Desk) or on the **"Attendance and Health Form"**.
- All performers must then register themselves and their sheet music at the Festival Registration desk.
- Entry to performance area is by dated and seat numbered ticket/s only - tickets are available through **Try Booking**. Please ensure that you print off your ticket/s for your session.
- NOTE: **walk in audience members will not be permitted entry**
- If you exhibit obvious flu-like symptoms you will not be permitted entry.

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### 2. MARSHALLING, BACKSTAGE AND WARM UP AREAS

- Once registered, the Performer must then head to the MC/Marshall in the auditorium for performance area to be marked off.
- Performers are asked to bring their own music stand if needed.
- We strongly encourage **all performers to warm up at home**, where possible.
- Limited **communal warm up areas** may be made available for performers provided **social distancing** can be maintained.
- **NB: There will be no private warm up space or piano provided other than one reserved for the Official Accompanist.**
- Each MC will run the session in their own way.
- In the auditorium, competitors may be marshalled in and invited onto the stage or asked to wait backstage before their performance.
- Sanitiser will be provided in each warm-up area and backstage.
- Belongings are not to be left in any space.
- Warm up spaces (and the piano) will be sanitised after each performance.

### 3. AUDITORIUM, AUDIENCE AND AWARDS

- Inside the auditorium, please adhere to social distancing at all times.
- Please only sit in the seat you have been allocated.
- If performers are marshalled into the auditorium, they will be distanced.
- Ensemble performers will stand or sit as per their sketch plans (submitted in advance to the Ensembles Registrar) and arranged by the Festival Stagehand. The Stagehand will ensure that the performers are placed a minimum of 1.5 m apart. Sharing music stands will be discouraged.
- Wind players must provide their own spit rags in a zip lock bag. Any condensation released during the performance must be wiped before leaving the stage and rags put back into their zip lock bags.
- Pianos will be sanitised between performances.
- Hands must be sanitised every time you enter or re-enter the auditorium or performance areas.
- All Festival Staff and Volunteers, including the Adjudicator and Assistant, will also be distanced.
- As always, no person, other than Festival staff and Volunteers, is permitted to approach the adjudicator for any reason until conclusion of the session.
- All awards will be displayed on a table to be collected by the competitors as they are announced.
- Between sessions, all public areas will be cleaned. This requires everyone to vacate the auditorium and performance areas. Unless you are registered for the next session, we ask that you leave the venue.

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### **4. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- Any Festival Staff or Volunteers who are feeling unwell will not attend
- Any Festival Staff or Volunteer who has been subject to a Covid-19 test will not attend a session until they have a confirmed negative result.
- There shall be no unnecessary contact between Festival staff, Volunteers, Performers and Audience.
- All Festival Volunteers must familiarise themselves with this plan prior to the Festival.
- As the auspicing organisation, The Waverley Music Eisteddfod Inc will comply with all requirements of the venues they hire, which includes: room capacities, cleaning requirements, seating limitations and food and beverage considerations.

Please note that the Festival is permitted to keep registration and attendance details for 56 days in line with the covid 19 contact tracing requirements.