

## **TSNY DC CORONAVIRUS PHASE 2 SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

The goal of TSNY's coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) safety protocols is to provide an environment that is as safe as possible for both students and staff during Phase 2 of Washington, D.C.'s phased re-opening. Safety will depend on equipment and personal sanitization procedures, social distancing, controlled behavior patterns, utilization of natural factors that reduce risk, and testing. These protocols are designed to minimize risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2, however given the nature of what we do, we recognize that this risk cannot be eliminated entirely. Any staff or students who are not comfortable with the protocols and procedures outlined below may elect not to return to work/participate in class without penalty.

In addition, we recognize that due to pre-existing conditions or other obstacles, not all students will be able to adhere to these regulations. In the name of public safety, we cannot make exceptions to our policies. While TSNY is always committed to providing an individualized circus experience to all participants, current procedures related to social distancing and mask wearing will impact our ability to make certain accommodations in our classes. We look forward to a time when all students can return safely to our space.

We may revisit or revise these protocols at any time based on guidance from local, national, and international public health authorities. We will provide up-to-date copies of these protocols online here: [https://washingtondc.trapezeschool.com/about/COVID-19\\_Safety\\_Procedures](https://washingtondc.trapezeschool.com/about/COVID-19_Safety_Procedures), and hard copies will be posted widely on site.

### **Equipment and Personal Sanitization Procedures**

#### **1. FACE COVERINGS:**

- a. Staff and students will be required to wear face (nose and mouth) coverings at all times.
- b. These face coverings must be secure and fitted such that they will not shift positions when upside down or engaging in physical activity and any loose ties must be able to be tucked in.
- c. Sample photos and a pattern for TSNY-approved face coverings will be made available (coming soon!), and TSNY will offer approved masks for sale.
- d. TSNY will also have a limited number of masks available to temporarily lend to students or staff who do not have approved face coverings. Any borrowed masks will be laundered and dried on high heat between uses.
- e. Any student whose mask does not meet the specifications in #1b will be asked to purchase a mask or use a TSNY mask. If the student does not wish to do so, they may be denied participation in class and refunded in full.
- f. Face coverings may be temporarily removed or loosened to accommodate drinking or breathing so long as social distancing guidelines are observed and/or at the discretion of staff. Appropriate sanitizing measures must be used after removing face coverings (See #2 below).

## 2. PERSONAL SANITIZING

- a. Staff and students will be required to use hand sanitizer or hand washing stations upon entering the premises, including after trips to the restroom (in addition to handwashing in the restroom) and at any time at the request of a staff member (for example after handling cash or credit cards); and encouraged to do so before leaving the premises and before and after adjusting face coverings..
- b. Students will be required to use hand sanitizer before each turn on shared equipment, including before climbing the flying trapeze ladder, before each turn on the trampoline, and before touching silks, lyra, or static trapeze, and at any time at the request of a staff member. Students will not be permitted to adjust their own aerial equipment except in independent training situations.
- c. In addition to the above:
  - i. Flying trapeze department staff will be required to use hand sanitizer or wash hands before starting work on lines, board or catching, or before changing work stations.
  - ii. Aerial, Trampoline and Ground department staff will be required to use hand sanitizer or wash hands before the start of each class and before adjusting equipment, and will prioritize class plans that minimize hands on spotting when possible.
  - iii. Retail staff will be required to use hand sanitizer or wash hands between each student transaction and immediately after handling cash, coins, credit cards, or other student payment devices.
  - iv. Retail staff will be behind a plexiglass barrier when interacting with customers.
- d. Alternatively to hand sanitizer for #2 sub b., and c. i. ii., staff and students may use liquid chalk containing 45% isopropyl alcohol (<https://shop.frictionlabs.com/collections/secret-stuff>). A recent CDC study shows that hand sanitizing formulations containing >30% isopropyl alcohol inactivate coronavirus-2 [https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/7/20-0915\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/7/20-0915_article)).
- e. Alternatively to hand sanitizer for #2 sub b., and c. i. ii., silks, lyra, and static trapeze students, and, flying trapeze catchers may use rosin containing >55% isopropyl alcohol (<https://www.schoolhealth.com/cramer-tuf-skin>; [https://www.conncoll.edu/media/website-media/offices/ehs/envhealthdocs/Cramer\\_Tuf-Skin.pdf](https://www.conncoll.edu/media/website-media/offices/ehs/envhealthdocs/Cramer_Tuf-Skin.pdf)).

### 3. EQUIPMENT SANITIZING

- a. When possible, classes will be structured to reduce or eliminate the amount of equipment shared by students.
- b. Flying trapeze and aerial bars will be re-taped or replaced with freshly-taped bars after each class unless at least 24 hours will pass before the equipment is reused by a different group of students. Areas of the bar that are not taped will be cleaned with virus inactivating disinfectants after each class.
- c. Safety belts will be rested for at least 24 hours before the equipment is reused by a different group of students. Non-porous parts of the safety belts will be cleaned with virus inactivating disinfectants between each use.
- d. Aerial equipment will be replaced with fresh equipment after each class, and will not be reused by a different group of students more than once in 24 hours.  
(<https://www.health.com/condition/infectious-diseases/coronavirus/how-long-does-coronavirus-live-on-clothes>).
- e. All high touch surfaces (trampoline bed, safety mats, chairs, tables, counters, credit card terminals, cash registers, computer keyboards and other peripherals, telephones, tablets, remote controls, door knobs, cameras) will be cleaned with virus inactivating disinfectants after each class and/or staff shift.
- f. Students and staff will be required to bring their own water to class. TSNY will have a limited number of sealed water bottles on site for emergency consumption. Students and staff are not permitted to refill water bottles with water at sinks or hand washing stations. Sinks and hand washing stations will be labeled as “non-potable” water sources to minimize the risk of this occurring.

### Social Distancing Procedures

1. INDOOR SPACE: At all times, total occupancy will be limited to 5 people per 1000 sq. ft. in any indoor facility. If classes are run indoors we will ensure recommended air turnover from outdoors.  
(<http://realestate.boston.com/ask-the-expert/2020/04/16/coronavirus-should-you-keep-your-windows-shut-this-spring/>).
- a. The indoor facility will be divided into activity modules with no more than 5 people per 1000 sq. ft., or maximum allowed gathering size per module, or the number of people that can be accommodated in each module with 6 feet distance between each other, whichever is fewest.
- b. Activity modules will be flying trapeze rig, trampoline, aerial points (two (2) points areas), retail/office, staff break room, and spectator/family viewing areas.
- c. Each activity module will be demarcated by tape, spray paint or other appropriate ground marking and signage.
- d. Social distancing (the 6-foot rule) will be explained, monitored, and enforced in all modules; chairs for both students and staff will be at least 6 feet apart; only people who live together will be permitted to sit together (for example family members at a picnic table). Nonparticipating parents/family will be permitted to sit with children or other members of their household as long as all other applicable rules/limitations are observed.
- e. Non-shared equipment within each activity module will be placed at least 6 feet apart.

- f. When multiple activity modules are in use, each activity module will be separated by at least ten (10) feet and no equipment will be shared by separate modules.
- g. If adequate spacing or time distancing is unavailable for multiple modules, modules will not run at the same time.
- h. The office/retail area will be limited to 1 staff member. Staff will be separated from students by a plexiglass barrier in the office/retail area and customer lines will be demarcated by tape 6 feet apart.
- i. The indoor space will be marked with arrows so that students and staff move in only one direction, so that they do not come face to face.
- j. To the extent possible, the entrance will be separate from the exit so incoming students do not encounter departing students. Otherwise classes will be timed so that incoming and departing students do not mix.

## 2. OUTDOOR SPACE:

- a. TSNY will maximize the use of outdoor space to take advantage of the fact that solar UV light kills viruses (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1280232/>), with awareness that solar UV only kills viruses on the top of surfaces and away from shadows, and knowing that outdoor air movement outside favors dispersion of viruses and thereby likely reduces transmission.
- b. Outdoor areas will be similarly demarcated to ensure adequate social distancing and one-way flow of traffic.
- c. To the extent possible, students taking classes outdoors will not be permitted to enter the indoor tent area except at the beginning of class to use hand-washing stations or in case of emergency.
- d. All outdoor students and activity modules will follow the same guidelines contained in this document as for indoor activity modules, except that outdoor classes may be larger as permitted by local law/guidelines.

## 3. STAFFING AND CLASS STRUCTURE:

- a. Instructors will be scheduled in cohorts to the extent possible to ensure the same members will work together.
- b. If a staff member becomes ill with coronavirus symptoms, then that staff member will self-isolate for 3 days.
  - i. If symptoms subside and no new symptoms appear, that staff member will be permitted to return to work.
  - ii. If symptoms do not subside and/or new symptoms appear, that staff member will continue to self-isolate for at least 14 days from start of symptoms and at least 3 days after symptoms subside AND/OR until they receive a negative test for COVID-19.

- c. If a staff member tests positive or is presumed positive for COVID-19, staff members who have worked closely with that staff member will be taken off the schedule for at least 5 days and observed carefully for symptoms of disease OR if testing is available until they receive a negative COVID-19 test result (<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/testing>). Any students who have come into contact with a positive or presumed positive staff member will be notified.
- d. In the initial phase of reopening, to the extent possible, classes will be run as workshops to keep the same set of instructors with the same set of students. There will be no one time student drop-ins to workshops, unless a designated alternate model is used.

#### 4. FLYING TRAPEZE CLASS MODIFICATIONS:

- a. Flying trapeze pedestal board workers will stand away from the student as they mount the pedestal board, and only move in close to students to change out their safety lines (ladder safety lines to flying safety lines) when students are facing away from the instructor.
- b. No more than 2 people will be permitted on the flying trapeze pedestal board at any one time.
- c. The lines person will remove safety lines from the student who has rolled out of the net with the student facing away from the instructor; return students may remove their own safety lines in the net.
- d. There will be no catching during initial reopening and we will evaluate whether and how to re-introduce catching as more information regarding transmission becomes available.
- e. Catching, when it is offered, will be optional for students during flying trapeze classes (as it always is).
- f. When catching is offered, catchers will replace their wrist wraps with washed wrist wraps after each class or allow 24 hours between uses of wrist wraps.
- g. Use of the practice bar will be suspended to eliminate the close interactions of students and staff during spotting on the low bar; only advanced students who do not require spotting will be permitted on the low bar.
- h. Until social distancing guidelines are eased, indoor flying trapeze classes will be limited in line with rules for maximum gatherings and for a maximum 90 minutes.
- i. There will be at least a 30-minute break between classes to allow for cleaning and to reduce contact between incoming and departing students.

#### 5. AERIAL, GROUND, AND TRAMPOLINE CLASS MODIFICATIONS:

- a. Classes will be structured to minimize hand spotting to the extent possible.
- b. Dual student activities such as hand balancing and duo trapeze will be suspended.
- c. For at least the first two weeks, only returning students will be permitted to take aerial and ground (silks, lyra, static trapeze, trampoline) classes;
- d. Aerial classes will be arranged to minimize or eliminate sharing of equipment.
- e. Aerial students who own their own equipment will be invited to use it for class, using hardware that belongs to TSNY and has been disinfected thoroughly. These students should arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of their class to allow time for rigging.

## Changes in Behavior Patterns and Policies

1. At the beginning of each class, the lead instructor will explain that careful well thought out behavior patterns are as important as sanitization in keeping students and staff safe.
2. The lead instructor will explain to students and staff that what we do necessitates some contact and shared space, and steps we are taking help manage but not necessarily eliminate risk. If anyone enrolled in or teaching a class is/becomes uncomfortable, they may receive a full or partial refund for remainder of class or discontinue teaching.
3. Students will be asked to think through each move they make and move slowly throughout the class to avoid bumping into or unnecessarily touching people, to remember to sanitize, and to avoid touching their faces.
4. Students will be told that the main goal of class is not how many turns they get, or what they accomplish, but as always, how safe they can keep themselves, their fellow students and the staff – but now with the added element of coronavirus containment safety.
5. Only return students will be permitted to take classes for the first 2 weeks after reopening to reduce potential issues due to unpredictable behavior while initiating new procedures; this will apply to flying trapeze, aerials and trampoline. If classes consistently show low attendance, this rule may be suspended.
6. All instructors will help facilitate class structures that accommodate short turns and sufficient breaks as students re-acclimate to training and get used to wearing a mask during class.
7. Students are strongly discouraged from bringing guests to classes (except in the case of minors under 14 years of age, see **Youth Participation** below). If a student does bring a guest(s) to observe class, that guest(s) will be permitted only if all of the following circumstances can be met:
  - a. The guest(s) must sign a COVID-19 waiver in advance.
  - b. The guest(s) must observe all rules for mask wearing, personal sanitization, and social distancing expected of staff and students.
  - c. The presence of a guest(s) must not cause TSNY to exceed restrictions on the number of persons present in the indoor facility, activity module, or outdoor facility.
  - d. There must be sufficient space for the guest(s) to observe and maintain social distancing.
  - e. The guest(s) must provide name and contact information as required by local law to facilitate contact tracing.
  - f. The guest must answer and pass the health screening questions required of students (see Testing, below).
  - g. Any guest who tests positive/is presumed positive for COVID-19 and has observed a class at TSNY within 14 days of onset of symptoms/receiving a positive test result is requested to notify TSNY.
8. Guests are permitted to observe outdoor flying trapeze classes from outside the TSNY-controlled area at their own risk.

## Testing

1. Staff will be required to self-monitor at home each day before going to work. Self-monitoring will include a temperature check and self-assessment for symptoms of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) including cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, sore throat, loss of taste or smell. Anyone with an elevated temperature ( $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or symptoms should inform their manager and not report to work. Staff may be asked upon reporting to work if they have self-monitored. If not, they will be asked to complete a self-evaluation and, after spending at least 10 minutes at ambient temperature, have their forehead temperature taken with a hand-held non-contact infrared thermometer. (<https://www.youngisheart.com/products/digital-handheld-infrared-thermometer?msclkid=8cf6c537a9c714dc2bce9b9e33ed2767>)
2. Any staff who report that they have symptoms of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) will be required to self-isolate for at least 3 days. If symptoms do not subside and/or new symptoms appear, that cohort member will continue to self-isolate for at least 14 days and for at least 3 days after symptoms subside AND/OR until they receive a negative test for COVID-19.
3. Upon entering the premises, students will be asked if they have any symptoms of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) including fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, sore throat, loss of taste or smell. Those who have symptoms will not be permitted to participate in class and will be asked to leave the premises along with all members of their group/household. Anyone who is denied participation in class will be refunded in full. Any student who tests positive/is presumed positive for COVID-19 and has taken a class at TSNY within 14 days of onset of symptoms/receiving a positive test result is requested to notify TSNY.

## Youth Participation

1. TSNY DC will not be running any full day summer camp programs for the summer of 2020.
2. All partial day youth programming will be restricted to a consistent cohort of 10 or fewer people (students and staff) for the full week or duration of the session.
3. All participants under 18 will be required to follow all rules applicable to adults including wearing face coverings throughout classes as well as sanitizing before each turn. Anyone who is not able to comply will not be permitted to participate in class and will be refunded.
4. Parents/legal guardians of children younger than 14 will be required to remain on site in the spectator/viewing area or the class space if capacity and social distancing guidelines can be accommodated; only **one** parent per student will be permitted inside the confines of each location (additional parents or family members may observe from a distance as permitted by local rulings and so long as social distancing guidelines and maximum capacity restrictions are observed).
5. Parents/guardians accompanying minors must follow the same rules as guests regarding providing name and contact information and answering health screening questions (see Testing, above).

## COVID-19 HEALTH SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

**For Staff:** Please read the below “Verbal Introduction” out loud before asking the screening questions to students, especially students, parents, guardians, or guests who are returning to our space for the first time after reopening. Please note:

- Question 4 refers to a list of “hotspots”. Please provide this list (available at the front desk and on the tablet) to students (/parents/guests) when asking this question. The list will be updated to track current DC guidelines as needed, so please have students review the list each time they arrive for class.
- Students (and others) must answer **NO** to all questions EXCEPT Question 5 in order to participate in class / enter the indoor or outdoor space. They must answer **YES** to Question 5 to participate / observe.
- Question 6 applies only to Youth Camp and Troupe participants and to any staff member who has not completed the mandatory self-check before coming to work. You do not have to ask this question to students in regular flying, aerial, or ground classes, even if they are under 18.

**VERBAL INTRODUCTION:** The information collected on this form will be used to determine only whether you are at an elevated risk of currently being infected with COVID-19. If your answer to any of these questions is **YES** (or **NO** to Question 5), **you will be denied entrance** into the facility and participation in class and you will receive a refund for that class. If you answer **NO** to question 6 (if applicable) you may be asked to submit to a non-contact temporal forehead reading before participating in class. We do not keep a record of this information, only whether you are admitted or denied participation in class.

1. Are you exhibiting any symptoms related to COVID-19, i.e. fever > 100°F, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle or body aches, headache not attributable to another cause, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea?	<b>YES / NO</b>
2. Have you had any person-to-person contact with someone who has exhibited COVID-19 symptoms or who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days?	<b>YES / NO</b>
3. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 / or are you presumptively positive for COVID-19 based on a healthcare provider’s assessment of your symptoms (except if your answer is YES but you have since been declared no longer contagious for COVID-19 by a healthcare provider)?	<b>YES / NO</b>
4. Have you traveled internationally in the last 14 days to any of the “hotspot” states/areas for which the District of Columbia requires a 14-day quarantine period (see provided list)?	<b>YES / NO</b>
5. Are you willing and able to abide by TSNY DC’s rules on social distancing, handwashing, and face covering during the time you are in their facility and/or using their equipment?	<b>YES / NO</b>
6. FOR STAFF AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING PARTICIPANTS: Did you take your / your child/ward’s temperature in the last 12 hours?	<b>YES / NO</b>