

Best Practices for Live Performances

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Overview

- What are Live Performances?
 - Live music like a band or DJ
 - Theater, comedy, poetry or dance performances
- Activities where Live Performances May Occur
- General Rules for Outdoor Live Performances
- Indoor Performances (with Indoor Dining)
- Other Considerations

Outdoor Activities where Live Performances May Occur

Outdoor Dining

- Outdoor restaurants, bars, breweries, distilleries and wineries allowed. All patrons must be seated to be served
- Per table limit up to 6 people but no household limit
- Group reservations of up to 2 tables allowed (Max. 12 people). Tables must be separated and no mingling between.
- Alcoholic beverages may be served without bona fide meal.
- Tables must be spaced at least 6 feet apart between seated patrons; per State requirements, no barriers in lieu of 6 feet distance. Only exception is for barriers installed before Dec 6.

Outdoor Arts and Music Festivals and Performances

- A maximum of 50 people may attend festival or performance with seating
- No assigned seating required but members of different households must maintain at least six-foot distancing
- Food and beverage concessions are allowed. If food is available, organizer must provide temporary seating or marked picnic areas for patrons. Patrons must be seated in their designated area or seats to consume any food or drink.
- The organizer must submit a health and safety plan to DPH five business days before event (but plan does not need to be approved before event)
- Organizers may stage sequential events but must provide a minimum of 20 minutes from the time guests leave to allow one group of audience members to safely exit and the other group of audience members to enter the venue. Personnel should use this time clean and sanitize the venue.

Outdoor Permanent Venues

- State guidance was issued last Friday for outdoor stadiums and fixed seating outdoor performance venues
- Additionally, events at these venues require submission of a local plan to DPH at least 10 days before the event; events with more than 100 attendees must obtain advance written approval from the Health Officer
- Webinar on Friday from Californians for the Arts and California DPH: <https://www.californiansforthearts.org/calendar/2021/4/2/learn-about-the-newly-released-ca-guidelines-for-outdoor-seated-live-events-and-performances>

Drive-In Gatherings & Other Activities

- Drive-In Gatherings have a capacity limit of up to 100 Vehicles.
 - Food and beverage concessions allowed. Must follow distancing and masking protocols with ordering and pickup.
- For additional activities where live performances might occur, refer to the guidance on small gatherings, live streaming, farmers' markets and others

Indoor Activities where Live Performances May
Occur (Indoor Dining)

Indoor Dining

- Indoor dining capacity limit is up to 50% (Max. 200 people not including personnel)
- Must maintain at least 6 feet of distance between diners seated at different tables
 - Patrons must be seated at a table to eat or drink; no standing, gathering, dancing, circulating between tables
- Per table limit up to 6 people from 3 households
- Must operate as a restaurant (not a bar)
 - Alcoholic beverages sales require a bona fide meal
- Indoor food service only allowed from 5am - 11pm; all patrons must exit by 11:30pm

General Rules for Outdoor Live Performances

Facial Coverings & Vocalists

- While it is recommended that performers (e.g., musicians, speakers, singers, dancers) wear facial coverings to the greatest extent possible, there are instances where some performers may be unmasked.
- Vocalists (singers, speakers) may perform with or without facial coverings.
 - Masked vocalists must maintain 6 feet of physical distance from other performers.
 - Unmasked vocalists must maintain 12 feet of physical distance from other performers.
- Singing, shouting or other loud vocal projection is a riskier activity that can produce floating aerosols, even when the speaker is masked. Utilize amplification to allow vocalists to perform at a lower, safer volume level.

Wind Musicians

- Wind musicians (performers of brass and woodwind instruments) may perform with or without facial coverings.
- If the person playing a wind instrument is wearing a mask while not playing their instrument and using an instrument cover, that person must maintain 6 feet of physical distance from other performers.
 - The bells of wind instruments must be covered with a mask or other fabric. Instrument covers should be made of materials similar to those required for face coverings.
 - Musicians playing a wind instrument must replace their facial covering when they are not actively performing.
 - To cover their nose, individuals performing with wind instruments may wear a face covering with a mouth-slit in addition to, but not in place of, an instrument cover.

Wind Musicians

- If the person playing the instrument is unmasked or does not use an instrument cover while performing, the person must maintain 12 feet of physical distancing from other performers.
- Brass instrumentalists must empty their spit into absorbent material (paper, cloth) that must be carefully disposed of after the performance or taken home by the performer.
 - Performers should consider using a large, thin, plastic-lined pad on their chest and lap to collect spit.

Outdoor Capacity Limit

- Any number of performers are permitted, provided that the performers' space allows 6 feet of distance between masked performers and 12 feet of distance between an unmasked vocalist/musician and other performers.
 - Also subject to any specified capacity limits for that activity.

Distance from Audience

- Generally, audience members must be a minimum of 12 feet away from performers.
 - However, with outdoor dining, audience members may be 6 feet away from performers where masked and using instrument covers.
- Whenever possible, create a barrier or use visual cues to demarcate the performance area or stage.
- Audience members must not enter the performance space; performers should not enter the audience space and should enter and exit the venue separately from the audience whenever possible.
- If amplification is employed, mixing boards and sound engineers must be placed at least 12 feet away from the audience.

Other Performance Considerations

- Performers should not share or pass around instruments or props during a performance.
- Dancers must wear facial coverings at all times. Do not choreograph performances that require strenuous physical movements that might cause the facial covering to be removed.
 - Choreograph routines that keep dancers in separate, physically distanced zones on the stage.
- Magicians cannot bring audience members on stage. If a magic act requires an assistant that person should not come within 6 feet of the magician. They should not share props or devices.

Indoor Performances (with Indoor Dining)

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- Due to the ongoing increased risk of COVID-19 transmission, singing, chanting, shouting, cheering, etc. and playing wind or brass instruments are strongly discouraged in indoor settings.
- When performing indoors all performers must be masked and all wind instruments must have instrument covers. Because wind musicians must remove their masks to perform, they must replace their masks any time they are not playing.
 - Performers with wind instruments may wear a face covering with a mouth-slit in addition to, but not in place of, an instrument cover.
- All performers must maintain a minimum of 12 feet from other performers and 12 feet from the audience.

Indoor Performances (with Indoor Dining)

- There is no cap on the number of performers, but the capacity of the indoor facility is subject to the 50% (or lower) occupancy limit specified for the activity, or the number of people who can maintain required physical distance, whichever is lower.

Additional Considerations

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- Consider a physical barrier between a performer and others (although a physical barrier does not reduce the amount of distance that must be maintained between the performer and others).
- Have performers position themselves so that voices and air exiting from instruments are directed away from the audience (for example, in silhouette).
- Encourage performers to get tested for COVID-19 within the 72 hours prior to their performance date.
 - People can get tested by their regular healthcare provider or at CityTestSF (Visit <https://sf.gov/citytestsf>).
- Take special care to ensure that performers do not have symptoms of COVID-19 and are not “close contacts” of someone with COVID-19.

Additional Rules & Approvals

- Land use rules and approvals
- Entertainment permitting

Additional Materials

- Stay-Safer-at-Home Order: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/C19-07-Shelter-in-Place-Health-Order.pdf>
- Directives & Guidance
 - Dining: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-16-Dining.pdf>
 - Outdoor Arts and Music Festivals: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2021-02-Arts-Music-Outdoors.pdf>
 - Drive-In Gatherings: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-28-Drive-in-Gatherings.pdf>
 - Outdoor Gatherings: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-19-Outdoor-Gatherings.pdf>

Additional Materials

- Plan Template for Outdoor Arts and Music Festivals and Performances: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/covid-guidance/2021-02-HSP-Arts-Music-Outdoors.pdf>
- Entertainment Commission resources:
 - Entertainment Commission web site: <https://sf.gov/entertainmentcommission>
 - Just Add Music (JAM) permit information: <https://sf.gov/jam>

THANK YOU

For more information about resources for business owners and employees, please visit:

<https://oewd.org/covid19>