

SoTA RSO/student groups/classwork COVID Protocols (8-10-2020)

In the School of Theatre Arts, we take the health and welfare of our community very seriously. That concern is elevated during this current pandemic. What follows are the protocols we expect all of our RSOs, student run groups/organizations and class work to follow in order to help us all continue to work, grow and create together while we are on campus.

In brief: always err on the side of extreme caution

1. **Everyone will wear a mask.** All work will be conducted with masks on. Even though the supported productions of SoTA have guidelines that will lead to some mask removal (after 3 weeks) that will be under the supervision of a SoTA faculty member. Those protocols will not apply in these student directed situations.
2. **Physical distancing will be observed.** While SoTA understands that some work we do will move into and out of physical distancing, it is the expectation of SoTA that student's work will practice physical distancing as much as possible. If a student comes within 6' of another person, or makes physical contact with another person, after 15 minutes the work must cease. At that point everyone involved will separate, wash their hands and take five minutes out of the space (outdoors preferred) for fresh air. Walking past someone does not count in this protocol. It is sustained close space or physical contact that will require a break, wash and refresh.
3. **Wash your hands.** All SoTA spaces are equipped with hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. In addition, the bathroom is close by to most of our spaces.
4. **Disinfect the space.** When you have concluded your work, follow the cleaning protocols posted in all SoTA spaces. *It is up to all of us to rigorously comply with these cleaning guidelines if we want to continue to have in person instruction and productions during this semester.*
5. **The Phoenix Space:** SoTA will not be using the Phoenix space for any classes, class work or rehearsals until further notice. The space does not meet fundamental guidelines for ventilation/safe air exchange.
6. **Outdoor spaces:** Whenever possible, use outdoor spaces to conduct your work. All previous protocols are still in place, even if you are outside.
7. **Securing a space:** All spaces traditionally used by SoTA have been included into 25LIVE - the online space reservation platform. If you want to use a space you must apply for that space at least 24 hours in advance. This is to help the university be proactive in the event IWU needs to contact trace a potential active COVID case.
8. **Theatrical material and rights:** Do not assume that you can stream anything currently in print - even if you have secured the rights. Streaming requires its own licensing agreement. This might be the time to create your own original work or to devise material in new, unique ways and spaces. With new work there are fewer obstacles to overcome with rights.
9. **Audience:** Any gathering cannot exceed 50 people TOTAL (this includes cast and crew). Audience must be placed 6' physically apart and must wear masks.
10. Consult IWU RSO planning guide: <https://www.iwu.edu/student-involvement/registered-student-organizations/rso-covid-planning.pdf>

11. Consult IWU RSO practises and Policies: <https://www.iwu.edu/student-involvement/registered-student-organizations/rso-covid-guidelines.pdf>