



March 22, 2021

Theaters and Performance Venues Safety Standards

Properties: The Old Whaling Church, Union Chapel and The Grange Hall Theater

Thank you for choosing Vineyard Trust. We appreciate you reserving our historic landmark for your upcoming event. Vineyard Trust is following the current safety standards set by the State of Massachusetts for all indoor and outdoor events.

As of March 22, 2021 the following COVID -19 safety standard must be followed when hosting an event at one of our venues:

A performance venue is a facility where performers are in a designated area, such as a stage, audience members remain in fixed or assigned seating during the performance, and seated dining service is not provided.

Audience Members / Venue Protocol:

- Require face coverings for all workers and customers, except where unsafe due to medical condition or disability
- 50% of the venue's maximum permitted occupancy. Must include 6' distancing for each group (six members or less)
 - Old Whaling Church 200 maximum
 - Union Chapel 200 maximum
 - Grange Hall Theater 40 maximum
- Ensure separation of 6 feet or more between individuals where possible
- Encourage advanced reservations and digital ticketing where possible
- Contactless payment methods and / or digital ticketing are encouraged
- Install physical barriers for ticket stations where possible, otherwise maintain 6 feet distance where not possible
- Facilities should develop a seating plan for which customers can reserve spots ahead of time and which is adjustable to the size of the booking party allowing couples and small groups to sit together while maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from other individuals/groups
- Reconfigure seating areas to ensure 6 feet distancing between customers not in the same group. See example of COVID spacing for The Old Whaling Church (every other row blocked off with groups of 4 together). No more than 6 people per group attending together
- Organizers should facilitate organized entrance and exit between events where audiences are arranged in rows or other large groups to prevent unnecessary congregation of customers
- Establish directional pathways to manage visitor flow for foot traffic, to minimize contact (e.g., one-way entrance and exit to shows, one-way pathways). Post clearly visible signage regarding these policies

- Reconfigure lobbies to discourage congregation of customers before, during, or after shows
- Performances that are shorter in duration are encouraged
- Intermissions should be avoided in order to limit time of performance and to prevent congregating and close contact with others
- Any self-serve racks or containers for programs or materials should be removed, and instead all materials must be handed out individually by workers
- Hand washing facilities are available on site
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at each venue. You may want to bring an additional supply to have in various locations during your event.
- Windows and doors will be open to increase air flow where possible

Performers Protocol:

- Performers are to wear face coverings during performances whenever feasible
- Performers should remain at least 6 feet apart even if wearing masks. Any activity requiring performers to be closer than 6 feet must be as brief as possible
- Activities that require prolonged direct contact (e.g. intimate scenes, fight scenes) are discouraged
- Prohibit direct interaction between performers and audience before, during, or after performances (including backstage and post-performance meet and greets)
- For live performances, singing and the playing of brass and wind instruments is discouraged.
- Singing is not permitted in any **indoor** performance venues.
- For indoor and outdoor performances involving brass or wind instruments, special distancing must be followed
 - At least 10 feet between performers
 - At least 25 feet between performers and first row of the audience
 - Plexiglass barriers cannot be used to reduce required distance between performers or between performers and the audience
- Avoid sharing equipment and supplies between workers including performers
- Dancing and dance areas: Must remain closed until Phase 4. Only performers are allowed to dance for their performances

For more detailed information on Massachusetts Theater and Performance Safety Standard visit: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/safety-standards-and-checklist-theaters-and-performance-venues>