

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 1, 2021

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Central Minnesota arts organizations collaborate to implement COVID19 vaccination/testing policy

We are excited to welcome you back to live performances and can't wait for artists and audiences to gather in our spaces again. Making sure we are doing our part to keep you, our artists, our staff and volunteers, and our community safe has been, and continues to be, our highest priority. We are following public safety guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to ensure we remain open in the safest way possible.

Given the rapid spread of COVID19, particularly in our tri-county area, and the nature of our events, the Paramount Center for the Arts, the Fine Arts Series at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University and the St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra will be implementing additional mitigation strategies including a vaccination/testing policy for each of our performance spaces.

The vaccination/testing requirement will be effective for each organization on the following dates:

- St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra: October 1, 2021
- CSB/SJU Fine Art: October 9, 2021
- Paramount Center for the Arts: November 1, 2021

All patrons ages 12 and up will be required to show proof of either:

- a recent negative COVID 19 test taken within 72 hours prior to attending an event
- OR proof of vaccination

This is in addition to our current masking policy which requires all people wear a properly fitting face mask while indoors at our venues, regardless of vaccination status. **These protocols will be reviewed regularly and may be changed based on evolving medical information including case numbers and community vaccination rates.**

The arts were one of the first industries to be significantly disrupted by the pandemic and that remains a primary challenge. However, given the very nature of how we gather to create and experience live performance, we have an obligation to continue to do our part in keeping our community safe and our doors open.

Thank you for helping us care for our community, both inside and outside of our performance spaces. Thank you for your cooperation, compliance and understanding. And, thank you for doing your part to keep our organizations open in the coming months as we all finally have the opportunity to enjoy live performances together again.

For more information please visit:

- paramountarts.org/communityhealthfirst
- csbsju.edu/WOW/communityhealthfirst
- stcloudsymphony.com

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