



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: 5/01/2022

Harlequin Productions Announces Changes to COVID Protocols

Olympia, WA – May 1, 2022 – Effective May 1, in light of the significant downward trend in case numbers and the State and Federal easing in restrictions, Harlequin Productions joins The Washington Center for the Performing Arts in no longer requiring proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test to enter the State Theater. For the safety of the live performers, all patrons will still be required to remain masked while in the theater space.

Staff and volunteers will continue to mask at all times while in the theater. All staff, performers, designers and crew are required to show proof of vaccination before entering the theater. Anyone interacting directly with performers is required to test negative using a rapid COVID test before entering the theater. Weekly rapid COVID testing continues to be conducted on all performers and crew. Anyone working backstage continues to mask when not actively performing.

Since the pandemic began, Harlequin Productions has maintained COVID policies in alignment with state and local health authorities as well as our industry peers. Throughout 2021 and 2022, Harlequin required proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test along with masking for entry.

Harlequin will continue to implement the following safety measures to keep patrons safe:

- **Masking.** Patrons will still be required to mask. Staff and volunteers will continue to mask at all times, as will artists and crew backstage.
- **Cleaning procedures.** High-touch surfaces like doors, railings, counters and restrooms will continue to be cleaned frequently.
- **Testing and screening.** Performers, designers, and crew continue to be tested weekly. In addition, anyone working directly with the performers is required to test negative to enter the theater space. Staff and volunteers are required to self-screen for COVID symptoms daily. We request that all patrons self-screen for symptoms prior to arrival as well. If you are ill, please stay home. If you need to make arrangements for your existing tickets due to a COVID-19 related illness or exposure, contact our Box Office at 360-786-0151.
- **Ventilation.** Updated ventilation (HVAC) systems, including state-of-the-art MERV-13 filtration systems, have been installed throughout the theater space.

Harlequin anticipates these protocols will remain in effect until May 31, 2022. We will continue to monitor case counts and state and local guidelines and will update our policies as conditions change. Any future changes to COVID protocols will be communicated via e-mails to ticket holders. All the above information is also available on the COVID Protocol page of the Harlequin website, [here](#). This page will be updated as policies evolve.

HARLEQUIN

Harlequin Productions is a professional not-for-profit theater company in Olympia, WA. We seek to invigorate, educate, and empower our community and all people to feel more, think more, play more, and judge less through the mirror of real live theatre.

For more information please contact:
Helen Harvester, Marketing and Communications Director
helen@harlequinproductions.org
