

Shuffles NYC

2020-2021 Fall Semester Update

Dear SHUFFLES Families,

We are looking forward to dancing in-person at SHUFFLES, and we want to provide an update on our operating procedures to ensure the health and safety of our students and faculty. We will be following the most up to date recommended CDC, New York State and New York City guidelines.

As we develop our plans it is important to note guidelines will continue to evolve at SHUFFLES and Studio Maestro. Our mission statement... *to strive for professionalism balanced with large amounts of fun! SHUFFLES students should leave every day, and every year with joy and confidence...* will be upheld, while keeping everyone safe and healthy!

Below is a list of protocols for entering the space beginning on Monday, October 19th:

-Please arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before the start of your class to avoid congestion in the lobby before classes begin.

-Before entering the building, everyone will have their temperature taken and complete a "[Health Check Survey](#)". If you feel sick, please stay home.

-The lobby will not be open to the public. Parents can drop off and pick up students at the 68th Street door. Younger students will be escorted upstairs by SHUFFLES staff to meet their caregiver.

-While in class and on the premises at Studio Maestro, everyone is required to wear a mask.

-There are stations at the top of the stairs, in the lobby, and in each studio with wipes and hand sanitizer. Students will be expected to sanitize their hands when they enter and exit the studio.

-Once students pass their health check they will go straight to their studio and sit in their assigned 6x6 socially distant dancing square. Students will place their belongings, including bags, shoes, and coats in designated, distanced spots along the wall. Water bottles may be placed on the outer edge of the dancer's square.

-Teachers will be in the studio as students enter to supervise that social distancing is maintained.

-Drinking fountains will not be open. Please bring a full water bottle with a straw to class. Students can drink water through a straw, under their mask. SHUFFLES will also have paper straws available to students.

-Dressing rooms will not be open; please arrive for your SHUFFLES classes already dressed in uniform. Bathrooms will be open to one person at a time.

-Students will not be permitted to wait in the lobby between classes. If this directly affects your child's schedule, please reach out to Gail and Tatum at studiomanager@shufflesnyc.com to discuss options.

- Any/All singing must be done while wearing a mask as well as a face shield.

**Shuffles will provide one face shield for every student & teacher. If a child wishes to sing in class, they must bring their shield to be worn with their mask. If lost, a replacement shield will be \$5.*

-Private voice lessons will remain online. Private dance lessons may be scheduled in the studio or online.

-Capacity in each studio will be restricted to avoid crowding and specific dancing locations will be marked on the floor to adhere to social distancing guidelines. If your class size exceeds the new recommended physical capacity guidelines, you may be asked to rotate weekly between the studio and the online class format. Capacities are as follows:

-Studio 1: 10 people (including teachers & pianists)

-Studio 2: 18 people (including teachers & pianists)

-Studio 3: 4 people (including teachers, pods/privates only)

-Due to social distancing, the Classroom will not be available to rent.

-All classes will be offered both in the studio and online.

-Teachers will Zoom from the studio and provide equal attention and time to students in the classroom and those taking via Zoom.

-The studio facilities are cleaned nightly and deep-cleaned/sanitized weekly.

-Studio Maestro installed new state recommended HEPA air filtration systems along with new fans on the upper sides of each wall to boost outside air flow.

-If your student attends a school that has closed for any amount of time due to an outbreak of Covid-19, please notify us immediately at studiomanager@shufflesnyc.com. In your email, please include possible date of exposure as well as your quarantine plan. In this event, we will also ask that your student present a negative test result before rejoining SHUFFLES classes in-person. These tests will need to be dated *at least five days after* the date of exposure, in alignment with CDC-recommended exposure and testing practices. *This protocol will apply throughout the semester to all students, in both classes and private lessons.*

-At any point, we may need to switch to a fully online schedule.

Below is the plan if a student tests positive for COVID-19:

-If a student/teacher tests positive for COVID-19, we will contact trace and all classes exposed will continue entirely on ZOOM for two weeks.

-If two students/teachers test positive for COVID-19 who do not share any of the same classes, SHUFFLES will continue entirely on ZOOM for two weeks.

-If a student/teacher is exposed to COVID-19, they must continue entirely on ZOOM for two weeks or present a negative test result before returning to in-studio classes.

-If a student, parent, or anyone in your home has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been notified by the NY Department of Health that they were in contact with an individual infected with COVID-19, you must notify SHUFFLES at once.

We look forward to seeing our SHUFFLES community soon!

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Gail P. Crutchfield
Founder and Executive Artistic Director