

## Brave Arts Summer 2021 – Day Sessions COVID-19 Safety & Wellness and Risk-Reduction Plan

Latest update: June 12, 2021

Brave Arts will approach reducing risk to exposure and/or spread of COVID-19 with a **five-point plan** (*masks, distance, hand hygiene, ventilation and testing/reporting/tracing*) that will be implemented prior to and throughout the day sessions. As advised by the CDC and Massachusetts state guidelines, we will layer safety measures and strictly adhere to our policies. *\*This document was originally published on 01/18/21. Following vaccination approval and new mandates/guidance from the CDC and Massachusetts' Department of Public Health, we are updating this document with changes highlighted in yellow. This document is subject to change and changes will be communicated.*

As of June 2021 we are pleased to report that **every Brave Arts staff member has been vaccinated and will be fully vaccinated by our July start date.**

“Day sessions” are defined as the hours between 8:45 AM to 3:00 PM and/or while any day session participants are on campus under Brave Arts’ supervision.

In order to qualify for any of the vaccinated individual exemptions below, proof of vaccination will need to be emailed to Sarah (Health Care Supervisor). Per HIPAA you are not required to disclose your child’s vaccination status. Anyone who chooses to not disclose their vaccination status will be considered unvaccinated. **Brave Arts highly encourages ALL participants aged 12 and up to be fully vaccinated prior to the start of their day session in order to best protect themselves, the Brave Arts community and their families/outside contacts.**

### 1. FACE COVERINGS

All staff and participants will be required to wear a 2-ply or 3-ply (recommended) face mask at drop-off and pick-up and while indoors. If the mask is not sufficient, Brave Arts staff will provide an alternative mask option. We will have scheduled mask breaks and kids may always let us know they need a mask and/or water/snack break. **In outdoor spaces all participants will be allowed to have their mask off.**

**\*Families can opt for their child to wear their masks at all times. No participant will be asked to take their mask off if they are uncomfortable doing so and we will maintain a culture of no “shaming” or questioning if participants opt to keep their mask on. We ask that you let us know via email prior to the start of the session if you require that your child keep his/her mask on while outdoors (unless eating/drinking/during a break).**

**Masks will be required for ALL individuals (regardless of vaccination status) in indoor facilities during the day sessions. If weather is inclement for outdoor eating, participants will be grouped by cohorts (groups of 5 or less) with an assigned counselor and spaced 6+ feet apart. We will ONLY sing inside when we are able to be masked and six feet physically spaced with ventilation. Counselors will use portable microphone packs to amplify our voices as needed.**

## 2. PHYSICAL DISTANCING

The CDC continues to recommend that we maintain 3 feet distance when indoors and 6 feet for singing indoors or outdoors/eating indoors. Using a similar set-up to schools, we will provide visual aids to help maintain appropriate distance.

## 3. VENTILATION AND USE OF OUTDOOR SPACE

The Cambridge School of Weston has been able to hold classes and overnight students on their campus as of January 2021 with safety upgrades to each of their buildings. They have partnered with The Stone Group to increase ventilation and air filtration.

Brave Arts has worked with CSW to identify the on-campus spaces that have the best ventilation/filtration and access to windows/doors as well as designated outdoor spaces for Brave Arts' use that will include covered areas for sun and heat protection. Brave Arts will prioritize CSW's outdoor spaces with the understanding from the CDC and other advisory groups that spread is significantly reduced outside due to natural air flow. Any time we are indoors, HEPA filters will be used and/or windows/doors open.

## 4. HAND HYGIENE

CSW has already provided multiple sanitation stations in each building and room and Brave Arts will provide additional bottles of hand sanitizer. Every member of the Brave Arts community will be required to wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap and water **at drop-off**, prior to and after lunch and snacks, and regularly throughout the day.

## 5. TESTING, EXPOSURE/SYMPTOM REPORTING, CONTACT TRACING

We will use a Google form that every participant will need to fill out honestly and accurately each morning. The form will include any symptoms, possible exposure and travel questions. **It will be at staff discretion after reviewing each of these surveys whether the child will be able to attend Brave Arts that morning and beyond. Participants displaying symptoms will only be able to return to Brave Arts with a negative test result and once symptoms have subsided.**

Brave Arts will communicate with all families about confirmed cases within our community. [Please follow CDC guidance for isolation/quarantine.](#) Any unvaccinated child who is deemed a close contact of a confirmed positive case at Brave Arts or outside of Brave Arts will be required to quarantine and take a PCR test. Per the CDC **vaccinated individuals should continue to monitor for symptoms but will not be required to quarantine. We will maintain a credit policy for any families affected by quarantine and will update with regards to "remote" participation. It is our intention that with our mitigation efforts we will be able to reduce "close contact" as much as possible.**

**Currently a close contact for kids in our type of environment is defined as:**

Any unvaccinated individual (masked unmasked) who has been within 6 feet indoors for 15+ minutes within 2 days of an individual who has tested positive (ie: test positive on Wednesday, Monday/Tuesday include close contact timeframe).

Quarantine will be required for close contacts until a negative result can be produced by a test taken on the 5th day of quarantine. Without a negative test, 10 days of quarantine will be required.

If a child displays symptoms at Brave Arts and/or tests positive during our day session they will be moved to an isolated room and monitored by a fully vaccinated staff person in PPE. The child must be picked up immediately by a family member or previously assigned emergency contact.

Staff will be under an employment agreement that will require extended safe behavior and limited exposure outside of our program. We will be “overstaffed” to ensure a fully staffed program at all times. Staff will maintain contact logs (ie: who was in their group, time together, mask-use, etc) to advise contact-tracing efforts and identify “close contacts.”

We currently require unvaccinated day session participants to produce a negative PCR result 1-3 days (ie: Friday test for Monday start) prior to the start of Brave Arts. If rapid testing becomes more widely available, we will also consider that option on a weekly basis.

### **LUNCH, SNACKS AND WATER BREAKS**

As of June 2021 Brave Arts has made the final decision to not provide lunch to day session participants due to the extensive risks of handling food. Instead participants should pack their own snacks/lunches and bring their own refillable water bottles.

Every child will have an assigned counselor(s) and lunch group when indoor eating is required that will not change throughout the week. Lunch, snacks and water breaks will work similarly to mask breaks. We will eat lunch outside, under the tents or covered spots weather-permitting. If we are experiencing extreme weather, we will have individual spaces for groups of 5 kids or less to eat spaced out with ample ventilation.

### **COMMUNITY AGREEMENT**

Every person registering is required to agree to our [community agreement](#) with the understanding that policies and information will be updated as we receive new information. We will be sending out required health forms and further liability waivers prior to July 1, 2021 that will be due at least one week prior to the start of your session. This summer will be about

caring for our community as if they were our own family and respecting that in order to give as many kids as possible a safe and healthy place to spend their summer, adults and families will need to agree to our commitment prior to and during Brave Arts sessions.

### **CARING FOR OUR BRAVE ARTS FAMILY: MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS**

In 2021 as we have seen our kids face restrictions with resilience, we are confident that they want to bring as much normalcy back to their lives as possible while knowing that we all need to commit to taking care of each other with safety measures inside and outside of Brave Arts.

The safety measures can be physically, emotionally and mentally challenging at times. Above all, this summer and every summer, our priority is each of our kids' well-being. No final performance, product or lesson will ever come before making sure the hearts and minds of our Brave Arts family are taken care of. We are opening Brave Arts this summer to give our kids their "second home" back and to give them time together as kids, pre-teens and teens, with adult staff who know how meaningful it is to have places like Brave Arts in a child's journey.

Working with kids, we know that breaks and check-ins are crucial. Every child will also be reassured they can communicate their needs to us and we will ensure that even when safety measures are enforced, it comes from a place of care and compassion, and never punishment.

We encourage all families to be in communication with us to help ensure that we can provide a summer of joy and growth for your child. We know that every family's experience in the pandemic has been different and that kids will have varying perceptions of the ongoing risks. We will insist that every family commits to taking care of this community, including other families and our staff, with compassion, kindness, respect, safety and flexibility.

Finally, there is a (much slimmer!) chance that we will need to cancel in-person programming. With the vaccine progress and safety measures, we are optimistic, but will never jeopardize the safety of our Brave Arts community if we cannot operate safely. Ultimately, the decision could come from state or town mandates and we will communicate and issue refunds/credits as appropriate.

**We can't wait to be back together and celebrate our 13th summer of this *special place* we call  
Brave Arts.**