

2021 DANCE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Dance competitions in New York are classified as a high-risk athletic event and have not been permitted since the beginning of Covid-19 restrictions. In January 2021 Governor Cuomo announced permission for high-risk athletic events to begin after February 1, 2021 with appropriate protocols in place and the approval of the local county health department. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts at LIU Post was given permission on February 12, 2021 by the Nassau County Department of Health to host dance competitions with the following procedures and protocols. The health and safety of participants and staff is our top priority. As a department of Long Island University, Tilles Center strictly adheres to guidelines in the Long Island University Reopening Plan as submitted to the Department of Health in accordance with NY Forward guidelines (www.forward.nyforward.gov). This plan is being implemented but will evolve as necessary based on experience and guidance from the appropriate authorities. Information contained in this document may be changed or modified at the sole discretion of Long Island University or by mandate from the State of New York of the Nassau County Department of Health.

General Event Information

- **Format**

- ✓ All competition will be organized in a block schedule format to minimize the total number of participants in the facility at any one time.
- ✓ Participants will only be allowed inside Tilles Center during their scheduled block or approved entrance time. You will not be admitted into the facility unless it is within the approved window for your dance school. There will be no exceptions.
- ✓ Participants are requested to arrive in the costume for their first performance piece.
- ✓ Participants are urged to leave as their portion of the program is completed.
- ✓ At the end of the block the used dressing area space will be cleared of all non-staff participants and cleaned/disinfected appropriately by Long Island University approved custodial vendor.

- **Block Size**

- ✓ Block size is limited to the total capacity of socially distanced dressing space available. No total block may exceed 144 dancers.
- ✓ Larger dance schools may be scheduled in their own block up to the 144 capacity.
- ✓ Smaller dance schools can be assigned in the same block with the understanding each group must be in their own dressing space. If approved by each dance school, more than one dance school can share the Atrium space due to its large size.
- ✓ There will be an appropriate break time after each block to properly clean dressing spaces.

- **Entrance to Campus and Tilles Center –**

- ✓ Due to contact tracing protocols, Long Island University is a closed campus. Entrance to the campus off of Northern Boulevard (25A) is from the West Gate. There is a Tilles Center marquee at the entrance. Bear to the left and then to the right to the security post.
- ✓ Each quarantine group (dancer plus up to two guests) must complete the LIU Post/Tilles Center Covid-19 Self Check to gain entrance to the campus. When you arrive at the security post hold the completed Covid-19 Self Check up to the window and the officer will let you pass. If you have deep tinted window, please lower your window enough to allow a view of the form.

- ✓ The Covid-19 Self Check must be completely filled out and it will be collected when you enter the Tilles Center. Tilles Center will seal the forms by block and hold them at Tilles Center for up to 21 days. If there are no Covid-19 reporting issues during that time period, the forms will be shredded.
- ✓ You will need to drive around the campus (see the Tilles Map) and park in the designated lot. Entrance to the building will be up the stairs from the Monter Plaza.
- ✓ There will be two open doors. Your quarantine group can choose either door. While waiting to enter the building, your group must wear a mask and socially distance.
- ✓ Once inside the building you will come down the stairs on your chosen side. Please observe the social distance marking on the floor.
- ✓ At the bottom of the stairs there will be a table where you will submit the Covid-19 Self Check and each person will have their temperature scanned. Any person with a temperature above 104° Fahrenheit or 38° Celsius will not be permitted inside of Tilles Center. Additionally, anyone refusing the temperature scan, refusing to wear a mask, social distance or not submitting the Covid-19 Self Check will be asked to leave.
- ✓ At the end of your performance you will exit the Tilles Center at the far end of the lobby onto the Castagna Plaza. You will need to go up the stairs and around the building to the left to get back to the event parking location. Please inform a member of the house staff if you or someone in your quarantine group will need the elevator to get back to your car. Additionally, you may drive your car to the Castagna Plaza entrance if you would like to pick up an individual needing assistance.
- **PPE & Social Distancing**
 - ✓ All participants and staff must wear a mask during their entire time in the facility unless they are unable to wear when they are performing onstage. If a dancer does not wear a mask on stage, they must immediately put the mask on as they leave the stage and should socially distance prior to putting on the mask. According to guidance provided by New York State Department of Health, all Individuals must wear acceptable face coverings, unless players (dancers) are unable to tolerate a face covering for the physical activity (e.g. practicing, playing); provided, however, that coaches, trainers, and other individuals who are not directly engaged in physical activity are required to wear a face covering. Acceptable face coverings for COVID-19 include but are not limited to cloth-based face coverings and disposable masks that cover both the mouth and nose. Please refer to the following publication for full guidelines:
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>
 - ✓ All must maintain social distancing requirements throughout the time in the facility.
 - ✓ Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the facility.
 - ✓ Please note Tilles Center will have a zero tolerance policy for mask or social distancing violations and spectators and participants may be asked to leave the facility.
- **Spectators and Dance School Staff**
 - ✓ Dance schools may bring a limited number of instructors and staff. Each school must provide a verifiable list of each instructor/staff at registration.
 - ✓ Spectators – Each dancer is allowed two spectators. There will be absolutely no exception to this rule. Spectators must check in at the registration desk and submit the Covid-19 Self Check and must be present with the dancer at the time of check-in.
 - ✓ Spectator Seating_– Seating in the auditorium will be socially distanced and will be monitored by Tilles Center staff. Spectators may sit in the designated center sections of the theatre in seats NOT marked with a red circle. Every other row will be available for seating and will be staggered in groups of two with at least three seats between groups. Each group can consist of no more than two spectator. All must wear a mask while in the auditorium. Participants are requested to leave the facility immediately following their last performance of your participant.
 - ✓ Any violation of seating or mask requirements will result in immediate removal from the facility.

Performance Information

- Dressing Room Assignments - Competition organizers will assign dressing room space for each group. Tilles Center will provide a monitor who will control the capacity of each dressing space.
- **Dressing Rooms** – Dressing room capacity is limited, and competition organizers are encouraged to advise participants to apply makeup prior to entering Tilles Center. Tilles Center will ensure dressing space is socially distanced and will monitor capacity. Please be advised a “helper” parent, guardian or staff member in the dressing room space will count against the capacity. We have dressing space available for a total of 144 dancers. The following dressing spaces are available with their socially distanced capacities listed:

Lobby Area

- Atrium – 54 Capacity
- Patrons Lounge – 38 Capacity
- Founders Room – 16 Capacity
- Conference Room – 4 Capacity (Boys Dressing Space)

Backstage Area

- Ross Room – 9 Capacity
- Blue Room – 8 Capacity
- Warm Up Room – 12 Capacity

- **Backstage** - One instructor or another representative of the dance school will be allowed backstage with the dancers during their performance. Performances by children under twelve may have one instructor/representative of the school on both stage left and stage right. Parents and guardians will not be allowed back stage unless they are on the official list of staff members provided by the dance school.
- **Food & Drink** – Tilles Center will not be selling concession items. Participants and spectators may only bring water in the facility. Food is not permitted. Competition organizer may provide food and drinks for staff and judges in a designated area away from the public. All food items must be individually wrapped or in boxes. Drinks must be in
- **Concession & Novelty Sales** – Event organizer is not permitted to sell food or drink items. Merchandise sales are permitted, and a touchless payment system is highly encouraged. Responsible Parties should minimize handling cash, credit cards, and mobile devices, where possible per state guidelines.

General Travel, Health & Safety Requirements

- **Travel Restrictions** - Competitions organizers will be responsible for complying with all New York travel guidelines for their staff arriving or living outside a noncontiguous state. Performers outside of noncontiguous states may not compete in the competition. Current travel guidelines are available at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>.
- **Health/Travel Assessment** – All participants – including spectators – must complete a written daily health and travel assessment that will be provided in advance. Participants not providing the form as requested will not be allowed in the facility. Form will include contact information for contact tracing purposes. Competition organizer will provide all forms to Tilles Center at the end of each day. Tilles Center will destroy all forms after a fourteen-day period or other mandated period by appropriate authorities.
- **Temperature Screening** – Competition organizer will perform temperature scans of all staff and participants as they enter the building. Any person with a temperature above 100.4° Fahrenheit or 38° Celsius will not be permitted inside of Tilles Center. Tilles Center will perform temperature scans on our employees.
- **Quarantine Status** – Any staff member or participant currently in a mandatory Covid-19 quarantine period – with or without a recent negative Covid-19 test – will not be allowed in the facility.
- **Signage** – Signage will be posted by Tilles Center reminding participants to wear a mask, wash hands and use hand sanitizer. Hand Sanitizer will be available at entrances and restrooms.

- **Restrooms** – Restrooms will be socially distanced, and capacity will be limited to one third of capacity with the total number of occupants posted on the door. Tilles Center will monitor occupancy. Lines for restrooms will be socially distanced.
- **Cleaning Protocols** – Hygiene and sanitation requirements are in accordance with the Long Island University Reopening Plan on file and approved by the Department of Health. Cleaning is performed by a University contracted vendor who is responsible for appropriate techniques and keeping a log. Tilles Center uses the AEGIS 60-day disinfectant system and appropriate daily disinfectant spray. Seating in the auditorium is antimicrobial. All high touch surfaces and restrooms are cleaned throughout the day. Dressing room and stage areas are cleaned between each block. Long Island University has increase outside air flow and capacity in HVAC systems and uses appropriate advanced filtration.