



COVID-19 Restart Plan

Transitioning to In-Person Programming

PHASE 1:

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES & PERFORMANCE-BASED GROUP CLASSES

These classes are prioritized for phase 1 transition to in-person delivery as they are the most difficult to offer online. Organization into regularly scheduled, consistently structured groups will create a controlled environment that can be closely monitored to ensure the safety of VAM's community. Classes introduced in this phase include:

- Chamber Music
- Orchestra
- Performance-based Group Classes

Programming that takes place in the first phase of the restart will be scheduled to limit the amount of traffic through the building at any given time. Curricular modifications will be implemented to reduce class capacity and introduce goal-oriented objectives alternative to that of public performances. Limiting facility use to large classroom spaces will give students the means to exercise proper physical distancing, with adequate time scheduled between classes to allow for enhanced sanitization protocols including cleaning of high-touch surfaces.

Delivery of in-person programs will at all times be contingent on the advice of public health officials and subject to change during the course of the academic year.

PHASE 2

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION – PIANO, PERCUSSION, HARP, DOUBLE BASS

Throughout the course of its initial building closure, VAM has received feedback from students, parents, and faculty on how the benefits and challenges of remote lessons vary depending on the instrument of study. This information is used as a basis to identify specific areas of study that are introduced in Phase 2, consisting of private lessons for instruments that require more complex at-home setups for remote instruction.

PHASES 3 AND 4

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION – STRINGS, WOODWINDS, BRASS

Additional private instruction transitions to in-person delivery:

- Phase 3 –remaining string instruments
- Phase 4 –woodwind and brass instruments

PHASE 5

ACADEMIC-BASED PRIVATE, SEMI-PRIVATE, AND GROUP INSTRUCTION; EARLY MUSIC EDUCATION; VOCAL & CHORAL PROGRAMS

To help reduce the amount of activity in the building, these areas of instruction will continue remotely until the final phase of transition into in-person instruction.

Changes to VAM Facilities

The following modifications will be implemented in VAM's facilities:

- Increased hand sanitizing stations positioned throughout the building
- Installation of touchless, sensor-based bathroom fixtures
- Regularly scheduled cleaning of high-touch surface areas
- Directional signage for one-way traffic in designated hallways and stairwells
- Closure of practice rooms
- Installation of plexiglass barriers in the front office area
- Removal of seating furniture in corridors and common areas

Online Learning Plans

Whenever possible, students in program areas transitioning to in-person delivery will be provided with online contingency documentation upon registration, providing details on how the course will adapt in the event of a future building closure caused by a subsequent wave of the virus or other inhibiting factors.

Events

Public events will be reinstated during the final stage of VAM's Restart, with performances taking place either online or as private events in the meantime.

In-person delivery will be the preferred arrangement for competitions and exams, with online options available for any such event that coincides with a building closure. Competition final rounds will be closed to the general public until public events resume.

Continue with Safety First

The diverse nature of VAM's programming means that the risk of transmission may vary depending on the area of study. In the event that new evidence comes to light regarding the risk of transmission for a specific instrument or other program-specific factor, the phased structure of transition to in-person programming will change accordingly.

Regulations set by public health officials will be prioritized at all times and may also result in changes to the order in which programs are re-introduced into the building. Once a date is established for the reopening of a phase, it is subject to change according to any mandate issued by VAM's Board of Directors.

CONTINUED OPTIONS FOR REMOTE LESSONS IN ALL PHASES

Students enrolled in programs that have transitioned to in-person delivery are encouraged to stay at home and continue remote learning if they wish to do so. Please communicate with your teacher about options for continuing online.

STAYING AT HOME WHEN UNWELL

All staff, faculty, students, parents, and families are reminded to stay at home if they are experiencing cold, flu, and/or COVID-19 symptoms.