Coronavirus Preparedness Resources

Updated: March 11, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

Dance/NYC understands the serious impact Coronavirus (COVID-19) is having on our community and continues to closely monitor the news regarding the virus. The health of the New York City dance community is important to us and we are committed to doing our part to address this threat seriously and proactively.

Below you can find a list of resources for how you and your organization can plan for the potential impact of the virus on your dance making activity in the New York City Metropolitan Area.

CORONAVIRUS IMPACT SURVEY FOR THE NEW YORK CITY DANCE COMMUNITY
Dance/NYC appreciates the deleterious financial impact that the Coronavirus may have on the dance community, in particular organizations and artists dependent on in-person gatherings, classes, and performances as sources of earned income, as well as artists and cultural workers without readily available access to healthcare and wage protections. We also recognize that African, Latina/o/x, Asian, Arab, and Native American (ALAANA), immigrant and disabled artists may face additional challenges accessing necessary resources at this time. In order for Dance/NYC to better serve and advocate for dance organizations and individuals in the dance community, we are asking that you take this brief survey to help us understand the impact the coronavirus is having on your organization and work. It should not take more than 10 minutes of your time. We value your input and will use it to create public awareness and guide policy, resources, and program development for dance makers and organizations based in the metropolitan New York City area.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
The federal government has dedicated resources to dealing with the virus via the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (HR 6047), which was passed by both houses and signed into law by President Trump last week. This bill funds an $8.3 billion response to the new pandemic including:

- $826 million for developing coronavirus vaccines, treatments and tests
- $300 million to purchase vaccines and treatments once they’re approved
- $950 million in grants to states and localities to help the front-line health departments
- $3.1 billion to buy medical supplies

NEW YORK STATE RESPONSE
New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency in New York State on March 7, 2020. As a point of reference, the Governor’s state of emergency declaration provides the following for New York State:

- Expedited procurement of cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer and other essential resources
- Allowing qualified professionals other than doctors and nurses to conduct testing
- Expedited procurement of testing supplies and equipment
- Expedited personnel onboarding
- Expedited leasing of lab space
- Allowing EMS personnel to transport patients to quarantine locations other than just hospitals
- Providing clear basis for price gouging and enforcement investigation
NEW YORK CITY RESPONSE
While there have been cases confirmed in New York City, the City remains open for business and operating as normal at this time. New York City is updating the case count in the city in real-time and providing information and resources on the [Department of Health and Mental Hygiene site](https://health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/) and social media channels.

The City is suggesting that businesses consider staggering work hours, employees consider taking alternate means of transportation to avoid mass transit crowding, and as emphasized, exercise diligence. The City has not asked for organizations to cancel events. As each organization has concerns specific to its operations and activities, your judgment should prevail. Should you reach a point where you feel you require City guidance, do request it. The City is also developing scenarios and plans so that we are not caught unawares should the situation become more critical.

CONTACT YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
As Congress and the Administration consider new forms of federal economic assistance that may be targeted or widespread, artists and performing arts groups can join with others in the arts and nonprofit sector to speak up to ensure that relief will meet all community needs. We encourage you to consider joining Dance/USA’s online campaign to Congress, or you can opt to weigh in directly with local district staff, to share more about your current needs. We urge you to be as specific as you can about the current and projected impact on yourself or your organization. Congress needs to hear from as many constituents as possible that COVID-19 relief should be made accessible to nonprofit arts organizations and artists.

As opportunities for federal relief do become available, your elected officials will likely be key partners in helping you to gain access, so it is doubly important to tend to these relationships now by initiating a conversation on this topic.

RESOURCES

NEW YORK STATE AND NEW YORK CITY
- The New York City Health Department: [nyc.gov/health/coronavirus](https://nyc.gov/health/coronavirus)
- NYC & Company is maintaining a toolkit for businesses: [https://business.nycgo.com/coronavirus-information-and-resources/?cid=NYCEM_MEM_Coronavirus2_20200226](https://business.nycgo.com/coronavirus-information-and-resources/?cid=NYCEM_MEM_Coronavirus2_20200226)
- New York City Department of Cultural Affairs: [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dcla/index.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dcla/index.page)

Sign up for the City’s official source for information about emergency alerts Notify NYC. In addition, you can text COVID to 692-692 to get enrolled in Notify NYC to provide important updates about COVID-19 in NYC. You can continue to help us keep track of outreach efforts using this tracker form.

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL
The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have issued guidance to help businesses and employers prepare for the potential spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) within the United States. The CDC has prepared materials specifically for employers, and community-based organizations. Here is a collection of current resources:

- CDC overview of COVID-19 resources
- CDC guidance for businesses and employers
- CDC guidance on mass gatherings
- CDC guidance for community- and faith-based organizations

RESOURCES FOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS
The philanthropic community and governmental agencies are considering near and longer-term resources that may be needed to support communities impacted by the coronavirus. We will add to this list as more information becomes available.

- ArtsReady is an online service by and for arts and culture nonprofits, and provides ongoing guidance in support of emergency preparation. The ArtsReady homepage features advice specific to the coronavirus, including consideration of how to review what is covered by insurance policies. ArtsReady has also shared this guidance with information on communicating with audiences and stakeholders, preparing your facility, and supporting your staff.
- CultureAid (Culture Active in Disasters) is a collaborative network of stakeholders and service providers committed to strengthening NYC’s cultural community before, during, and after disasters.
- Dance/USA has prepared a resources page and encourages the dance field to guard against fear and stigma related to the Coronavirus and Chinese and/or Asian Americans. Read more about this on the [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov) and on [NPR](https://www.npr.org).
- Lawyers Alliance offers much good information, including a pdf on [how to protect ourselves legally as well as healthwise](https://www.lawyersalliance.org/coronavirus).
- National Coalition for Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response is a network focused on emergency response and resiliency for cultural groups and artists, offering best practices, advice for preparation, tools and reports.
- The Robert Rauschenberg Foundation has created a new [emergency medical grant for artists](https://www.rrf.org)
EVENT MANAGEMENT TOOLS

- World Health Organization: guidance on mass gatherings.
- The Event Safety Alliance has hosted a webinar on preparing your organization for the Coronavirus disease outbreak.

COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES

- PR Boutiques International, a group comprising 40 PR agencies, put together a good list of best practices for communicating during the Covid-19 crisis.
- Advice from well-regarded expert Peter Panepento on communicating during a time of crisis, with a link to advice on creating a crisis communications plan.
- Meetings Means Business has developed a series of organizational materials focused on messaging and media.

RELATED PRESS

- Dance Magazine
- The New York Times

The resources displayed on this page were compiled with thanks to The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Dance/USA, New Yorkers for Culture & Arts, and The League of American Orchestras.