

MEMO

December 8, 2020

TO: MSA Family

FROM: Suzanne Hirsch, Executive Director

RE: Learning plan

The Mississippi School of the Arts has created a plan aligned with Center for Disease Control for the possibility that this virus may be in our community for months to come. The final weeks of December and reopening of our campus in January for operation must be done with great care.

Due to the large numbers of students who are electing to do virtual learning, MSA operations has been severely disrupted. We do not have an outbreak or a mandatory quarantine that reaches our threshold for virtual learning at this time. Since August 31, 2020, there have been four confirmed cases on campus to date. **Even though our numbers have been small, MSA will begin virtual learning for December 14-18, 2020. All students will need to be picked up on Friday, December 11, 2020.**

REVISED PLANS FOR RE-OPENING JANUARY 2021 - MSA plans to begin to resume in person classes on **January 3 for juniors and January 18 for seniors**. Unless directed by authorities prior to the start of school, MSA will open on a Hybrid Model for the first four weeks of 2021. **Hybrid would alternate juniors and seniors every two weeks on campus with virtual instruction the weeks they are off campus.**

The following schedule will be followed:

Seniors schedule

January 4-15 Seniors will work virtually from home.

January 18-29 Seniors return to campus for MSA classes.

Juniors schedule

January 4-15 Juniors return to campus for MSA classes.

January 18-29 Juniors will work virtually from home.

Juniors and Seniors

January 31 Juniors and Seniors are on campus for the remainder of the third nine weeks

MSA hopes to continue traditional operations for the remainder of the third nine weeks provided that the circumstances warrant a safe return for all students. We will continue to work together with masks, sanitizing, social distancing, and additional protocols with regard to contact tracing and quarantine as needed to keep our campus safe.