

BRAVE NEW VOICES 2020 - SAFETY FAQs FOR VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

Youth Speaks (YS) is committed to making continuous improvements over the long-term to ensuring the safety, wellness and joy of our BNV festival participants.

- I. Our plan is to provide for the mental health, physical well-being and the safety of participating youth in the Virtual Festival. How is YS prepared to hold safe(r) space for youth who may get triggered during the festival?
 - A. This is core to our commitment to our young people/festival participants
 - B. Our strategies have shifted because this year we are doing a virtual event. A National Safety & Accessibility Steering Committee, consisting of members of the BNV Network and Health Experts has informed these guidelines. We are expecting many of the members and personnel to carry over to FY21 to provide grounding, assessment and continuity to our planning for the future.
 - C. The Youth Speaks Board of Director ultimately oversees safety + health and ensures we have a plan in place that holds us accountable;
 1. Planners are moving forward without board input to address accessibility issues, ableism, mental health although the Board has been informed of all steps in our process.
- D. What are the committees working on/discussing?**
 1. There are 30 organizations on the National Steering Committees
 - a) Although Youth Speaks cannot be responsible for participants' physical safety during this virtual event, we can support information and distribute resources about best practices, social distancing, safe gathering, and tools. These include but are not limited to;
 - b) Ensuring the review and endorsement of shared responsibility by Participating Organizations to ensure the safety of youth participants affiliated with their organization
 - c) Sharing resources for suicide prevention, crisis response hotline, mental health services, hospitals, community based organizations, mental health professionals, etc. for event participants (Both Nationally and Internally for Staff Training)
 - d) Who is responsible for gathering this? We are calling upon local Participating organizations to collect a few resources for their youth. This is part of our recommendations and will be required as part of participation.
 - e) This is where YS is creating a boundary in what we can do within the virtual festival and how organizations can support their youth participants to participate safely

2. Virtual safety: the registration process is designed to vet attendees/participants who will gain access to the festival's non-public spaces.
3. Organizational registration is designed to 1) privatize spaces and 2) validate who will be in each virtual room
 - a) As part of registration we ask organizations if they've identified 3 resources to support their youth's participation in the festival locally.
 - b) There will be youth only spaces that will be monitored by a BNV Festival Staff member
 - c) Will have monitored chat and participation features enabled
 - d) Code of conduct will be included in the festival materials
 - (1) Includes welcome letter
 - (2) Mandatory webinar for organizations to attend
 - (3) Youth participants will be oriented by organizations
 - (4) Programming at the start of our Virtual Festival to orient youth as well
 - (5) We purposely decided not to open up the SLAM Competition to individuals outside of the network affiliates because of the cultural aspect and pedagogy of BNV, and to insure that Teams have the organizational infrastructure to support youth participants
4. Public performances will be structured so that general audience members can watch, but comments/chat ability to engage with performers or each other will be disabled.
5. We will be orienting the remainder of the participants that are unaffiliated and for whom this will be their first time attending.
6. Coaches and designated Organizational Leaders are partners in ensuring young people are safe and share resources with their youth, and are directly responsible for their youth/teams
 - a) There are mandatory trainings for Competing Team Coaches on July 8th; and Mandatory Webinars on Tech and Safety for all participating organizations on July 10th
 - b) We'll Review schedule, competing teams, expectations of the coaches/organizations to maintain safety of their youth and go over best practices in terms of their relationships and interactions with their youth
 - c) We will train Organizations to institute better mental health practices;
 - d) Code of Conduct will be signed by Organizations by July 10th, 2020.
 - e) Respond to young people in your organization having difficulty to ensure that youth are held after the festival hours

- f) Is there a plan, or check in with your youth to decompress or wind down the end of the day?
 - E. Anticipating and Responding to Mental health triggers:
 - 1. Webinars for coaches + participating teams to provide for the mental health-wellbeing
 - 2. Tutorials + one pagers to distribute best practices, recommendations and low-cost technology
 - 3. Decompression rooms are available for any young person during the hours of Festival Operation, and on call during live festival;
 - a) Virtual: in the 10 - 12 hours of programming we will provide privatized decompression rooms and mental health professionals will be on duty
 - b) Will always be available
 - F. There is a committee dedicated to the safety of festival participants. What are those plans and how can we share them, how are youth participants/community members engaging to provide feedback.
- II. **Accessibility:** What can we share about the planning process this year that ensures that we are creating an inclusive festival?
 - A. We have analyzed and determined the scale of need to inform response, e.g., purchasing technology for multiple participants, and providing a list of free apps that youth can use for translation and closed captioning
 - B. Low-cost technology solutions for SLAM and non-SLAM events such as: Identifying ADA compliant Covid-safe venues to watch and/or participation in the festival for folks who don't have access to Wifi
 - C. Recommend best practices through organizations engaging youth (masks, hand sanitizer, hand washing, danger of food sharing, cleaning surfaces - with supply list). The recommendations are included in **Section B**.
 - D. Other-abled folx: ASL interpreters for signature events, potentially SLAMS if we can get that large of a volunteer crew for as many things as we can; closed captioning technology in-kind
 - 1. Check in with organizations about accessibility needs before the festival
 - E. Setting expectations about safe gatherings in the time of Covid
 - F. Deaf community:
 - 1. ASL interpreters would do simultaneous signing during performance
 - 2. Closed captioning, hearing impaired for broadcast
 - 3. User-based Apps with assistive technology, e.g., closed captioning during live performance through audio
 - 4. Vocal interpreter of ASL may be needed on occasion; tracking their participation
 - 5. For 2021: The Kennedy Center has *live* closed captioning capabilities*

B. Address “ableism” of years past. (Live or Virtual) - Seek Recommendations from Safety Committee

**SECTION B: In Person Safety for Brave New Voices Production
Best Practices for Organizations gathering Young People**

Please refer to the local guidelines for Covid Safety in your State and City to use as a reference.

[San Francisco](#) Informational Site

[San Francisco Guidelines and Checklist](#)

HSP

Health and Safety Plan

Health Officer Directive No. 2020-18 (Exhibit B) Health and Safety Plan (issued 6/13/2020)

Each Office Facility must complete, post onsite, and follow this Health and Safety Plan. Check off all items below that apply and list other required information. *Business/Entity name:*
Contact name:

Facility Address: Contact telephone:

(You may contact the person listed above with any questions or comments about this plan.)

Covid Testing for Onsite SF Production work

For anyone working onsite with other members of production or Youth Speaks staff, everyone will be expected to get tested 3-5 days prior to In Person work. The 1st test should happen on the 12th, 13th, or 14th of July. The 2nd test should happen on the 16th, 17th, or 18th of July. And the final tests happen the week of BNV, Monday & Thursday are the preferred days if possible.

Guide for getting tested in the Bay Area

Currently, testing appointments in the Bay are about 1-2 weeks booked, thankfully there is a work around! It is through a company called “Color”. You will need to give them some info (all “optional” fields are not required), select a location (if in SF), and choose an appointment day/time. If the schedule looks blank, give it time to load, and then search the next week if it is still empty. Thankfully, once you have an appointment, you are in their system and can do a “walk up”, at your previously selected site, at any time they are open. Once you take a test, sign up for another one to have the option.

SF Link: <https://home.color.com/covid/sign-up/start?partner=sfdph>

West Oakland Link: <https://home.color.com/covid/sign-up/start?partner=wohc>

Checklist

- Office Facility is familiar with and complies with all requirements set forth in Health Directive No. 2020-18, available at <http://www.sfdph.org/directives>.
- Completed any necessary adjustments to the layout of the Office Facility to allow for proper social distancing.
- Plumbing Is functioning and,if the Office Facility was dormant, the pipes are flushed.
- Completed any necessary improvements to the ventilation of the Office Facility.
- Developed a plan to ensure Personnel comply with social distancing requirements and to limit the number of people in the Office Facility at a given time, consistent with the requirements in the Stay-Safe-at-Home Order.
- Modified policies for using elevators and stairs, including placing signage regarding any applicable limits on use of elevators.
- Personnel and members of the public who enter the Office Facility are required to wear Face Coverings as provided in the Face Covering Order.
- Developed and implemented a plan and implement daily COVID-19 symptom self- verifications for all Personnel as required by the Social Distancing Protocol.
- Developed and implemented a plan and implemented sanitization requirements.
- Personnel have access to cleaning supplies so that they can clean surfaces as needed on their own when custodial staff is not available.
- High touch surfaces in common areas are cleaned and disinfected routinely throughout the day.

Additional Requirement Applicable to Non-Essential Businesses:

- Adjusted maximum occupancy rules based on the size of the facility to limit the number of people (including Personnel and members of the public) in the Office Facility.

Additional Measures (BNV for Bay Area Video Coalition, Bay View Opera House and Got Light Facilities or Organizations Gathering Youth in Physical Space)

- Waivers Completed before starting on site work
- Complete a Covid Test Before July 14th (for BNV Staff)
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- Wipe/Spray down work stations anytime you arrive or leave workstation
- Temperature Check Each morning, middle of the day and upon departure
 - Log for Temperature Checks maintained
- Requirement of Testing if above levels (Temperature)
 - Staff would need Negative Test before re-entering facility (results are usually available in 24-48 hours)
- Provide plastic Gloves, Masks and Shields
- HEPA, Medical Grade, High Volume Air Filter systems (1 Per room, cycling no less than 750 Cubic Feet of volume in 30 minutes)
- Scheduled wipedown for surfaces and computers (establish between events)
- Walkie Talkie, or Com System installed
 - Sanitized on a regular Schedule over the course of a production day
 - Assigned and Labeled for individual Staff Members
 - Wiped Down and placed on "Clean" Table and end of day
- Wipedown and reset of rooms for Food Service
- Wipedown and reset of room for next day