



## Considerations for Singing Together Again

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### Singers

- 1. Nothing is risk free** – We need to learn how to evaluate relative risks and make appropriate decisions. Be cautious and act slowly.
- 2. Be willing to change** – The situation, infection rates, and testing and treatment options will change.
- 3. Follow CDC and local guidelines** – Many scientists and others are working to keep us safe. Viral prevalence is different from state to state and varies by community.
- 4. Gather outside** – Less viral transmission occurs outdoors. Continue social distancing.
- 5. Ventilation** – If indoors, open windows and work with a HVAC professional to improve fresh air. The solution for pollution is dilution!
- 6. Shorter rehearsals** – This could reduce the amount of viral exposure.
- 7. Screen singers/groups** – Individuals with symptoms of possible COVID-19 should not participate (new cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste/smell, or known exposure).
- 8. Small groups** – Singers can spread out which diminishes risk.
- 9. Masks** – When worn, it is hard to sing clearly, it's hot and humid, but the risk of large droplet spread is decreased. Some masks are certainly more comfortable and likely allow better sound quality than others - more to come.
- 10. Clean surfaces/Wash hands** – Regularly clean commonly touched surfaces, and wash hands regularly.
- 11. Spread out** – Six feet is likely not enough – more distance is safer with singing.
- 12. Virtual choirs** – Computer technology allows a safe but time intensive and technical project.
- 13. Age and health status** – The young are less likely to develop serious infection but could carry it to others.
- 14. Contact tracing** – Keep attendance records which will allow for quick tracing should a member become infected.
- 15. UV lights** – These likely kill the virus but can have harmful effects. Studies are being conducted. (Not ready for use if people are in the room– more will be learned soon). UV lights are being increasingly used in air return ducts.
- 16. Wind instruments** – Very little data exists concerning aerosol production and potential COVID-19 infection. We will learn more over time.
- 17. Testing** – Molecular testing and antibody testing is available, however currently neither allow for routine, simple and accurate testing to assure individual or group safety. This will likely change.
- 18. Vaccination** – Much work is being done. It will take some time before we have a vaccine that has been shown to be safe and is known to be effective.



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### **Audiences/Congregations:**

1. Many of the former page-mentioned points apply
2. The CDC has published specific interim information for opening communities of faith:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/faith-based.html>
3. Consider basic screening.
4. Consider seating separation.
5. Consider the use of masks.
6. **Restroom facilities** – Allow only a few people at a time and clean frequently.
7. **Surfaces** – Clean frequently and minimize repeated touching of doorknobs or other objects.
8. **Drinking fountains** – COVID-19 virus does not appear to spread via water but there is some risk of surface contamination.
9. **Congregational singing** – Potential for increased droplet and possible aerosol transmission exists. Many people singing in a somewhat confined space will increase the risk.

For a video series addressing these topics and more information, tune in to the Kansas Voice Center YouTube Channel or follow along on Facebook @KVCLawoto

Also you can make it easy and convenient by following our blog at:  
[ksvoicecenter.com](http://ksvoicecenter.com)