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Note: Images are available in the [online media gallery](#).

## Media Alert

### Spoleto Sets Vaccination Requirement Ahead of Season Announcement

*Policies apply to all staff, artists, volunteers, and audience members*

**Brief:** Audience members will be required to show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination—including booster shots for those who are eligible—for entry to all Spoleto Festival USA performances. Masks will be required for all indoor performances.

- Negative tests will not be acceptable for admission to Festival performances.
- A recent COVID-19 infection does not exempt the vaccine requirement.
- A list of FAQs can be found at [spoletousa.org/covid-19-policies-and-updates](https://spoletousa.org/covid-19-policies-and-updates).

**Note:** These policies apply to all staff, artists, and volunteers, all who operate in numerous venues and interact with many people within and outside of the Festival. These policies will also apply to members of the press requesting in-person contact with Festival staff and/or artists (i.e., interviews or photo ops) and/or Festival attendance.

**Statement from Mena Mark Hanna, General Director:** “Mounting a full-scale in-person performing arts festival requires prioritizing our community’s health and well-being. The future of our Festival depends on it. Vaccinations, including boosters, are the best defense against serious and fatal COVID-19 infections. Spoleto gathers artists and audience members from around the globe, and we are setting policies that allow for this gathering on such a scale. I look forward to seeing everyone at a full Festival this spring and encourage our community to get vaccinated and boosted.”

**Next up:** Full season announcement on Friday, February 11.

Tickets become available to the public on Tuesday, February 22.

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#### SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

Spoleto Festival USA was founded in 1977 by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who sought to create an American counterpart to the annual Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy, that he had founded in 1958. Now in its 46th year, Spoleto Festival USA is internationally recognized as America’s premier performing arts festival. For 17 days and nights each spring, Spoleto Festival USA fills Charleston’s historic theaters, churches, and outdoor spaces with performances in opera; theater; dance; and chamber, symphonic, choral, and jazz music. Spoleto’s mission is to present

programs of the highest artistic caliber while maintaining a dedication to young artists, a commitment to all forms of the performing arts, a passion for contemporary innovation, and an enthusiasm for providing unique performance opportunities for established artists. Beyond its role as a launching pad for young talent, Spoleto also serves as a catalyst for cultural change and has aided in Charleston's flourishing as a top arts and culture destination. With General Director Mena Mark Hanna at its helm, the 2022 season takes place May 27 to June 12 in various locations on the downtown peninsula. Spoleto Festival USA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.

**Images:** A selection of high-resolution images can be found in Spoleto Festival USA's [online gallery](#). For more information, visit the [press room](#).