



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 10, 2021

Media contact:

Rachel Applegate, Director of Marketing and Communications

[rachela@alleytheatre.org](mailto:rachela@alleytheatre.org)

713.315.3352

## **Alley Theatre Announces COVID-19 Policy Effective October 1, 2021 *Proof of Negative Test or Vaccination Required***

HOUSTON, TX – Alley Theatre announces updated safety and health policies for return to live performances. On September 9, 2021, Alley Theatre Board of Trustees voted unanimously to require proof of negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours or, alternatively, proof of vaccination for all guests 12 and up attending performances and events at the Alley Theatre.

As the Alley resumes live performances, we are committed to the health and safety of all of our artists, employees, and guests. In order to maintain the safest environment possible, all Alley Theatre staff, artists, creative teams, crews, and ushers are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

To ensure the safety of all Alley Theatre lovers, the following policy will go into effect beginning October 1, 2021 with the first in-person performance of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season:

- All guests will be required to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to the performance. Both PCR tests and antigen tests are acceptable. The results must have been performed by a third party, such as a lab. At-home tests will not be accepted. Guests can show either paper or electronic documentation (including photo of negative results).
- Guests who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (at least 14 days after final dose) may bring proof of vaccination as a substitute for a negative COVID-19 test result. Guests can show either paper or electronic documentation (including photo of card).
- Alley Theatre requires all guests to wear a mask covering nose and mouth at all times while in the Theatre building, except while actively eating and drinking. Alley Theatre will provide complimentary masks to guests who forget to bring one. If guests choose not to wear a mask, there will be no admittance to the Theatre building and a refund will be processed.
- As always, food and drinks will not be allowed in the Theatres.

In order to streamline entry, the Alley encourages guests to use the [Bindle App](#), a secure, easy-to-use digital pass for entrance to the Alley Theatre. Bindle securely stores your self-attested negative test status or vaccination record and creates a QR code for fast-pass access to the Theatre.

If guests feel ill, or test positive for COVID-19, we ask that they do not come to the Theatre, and contact [boxoffice@alleytheatre.org](mailto:boxoffice@alleytheatre.org) to reschedule, move funds to an account for future use, or request a refund.

Alley Theatre's COVID-19 Guest Policy is subject to change as we continue to work with health and government officials. The Theatre will update all ticket holders in advance of their ticketed performance if changes occur. Guests who purchase or reserve tickets to performances and events acknowledge and consent to the adherence of these policies.

## **OTHER SAFETY UPDATES**

- Contactless options will be available for transactions upon entry and for in-venue purchases.
- All auditorium ventilation systems have been upgraded to MERV 13 filters.
- EPA approved cleaning products are used along with rigorous cleaning and sanitation protocols.

## **GBAC STAR**

The Alley is a GBAC STAR™ accredited facility. The accreditation means that the facility has:

- Established and maintained a cleaning, disinfection, and infectious diseases prevention program to minimize risk associated with infectious agents like the novel coronavirus
- The proper cleaning protocols, disinfection techniques, and work practices in place to combat biohazards and infectious disease
- Highly skilled cleaning professionals who are trained for outbreak and infectious disease preparation and response
- Created a checks and balance system to ensure that all employees and artists are following PPE protocols and disinfecting procedures

For a full list of ticket policies including exchanges, cancellations, and digital distribution options, please visit [alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org).

## **ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE:**

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Artistic Director Rob Melrose and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley is committed to developing and producing theatre that is as diverse as the

Houston community. The Theatre produces up to 16 plays and nearly 500 performances each season, ranging from the best current work and re-invigorated classic plays to new plays by contemporary writers. Home to a full-time resident company of actors, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline—actors, directors, designers, composers, playwrights—who work on individual productions throughout each season as visiting artists.

The Alley is comprised of two state-of-the-art theatres: the 774-seat Hubbard Theatre and the 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre. The Alley reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance, education, and community engagement programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

###