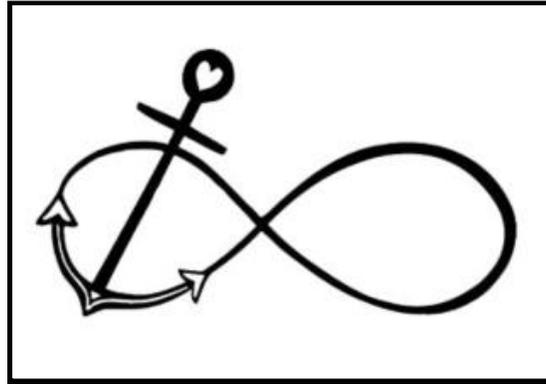


Linked [here](#) is our first COVID-19 Update, which was released on November 3, 2020.



Anchorless Productions Update: COVID-19 and Current Operations

MARCH 21, 2021

The health and safety of our students, volunteers, and staff remains our top priority. We have committed to holding all meetings, rehearsals, classes, showcases, and performances on Zoom until the end of August. We'll announce our plans for the fall at a later date.

In-Person Events

So far, we've held two in-person events (listed below). At both events, everyone wore masks and we maintained a distance of at least 6 feet when possible.

1. Costume pick-up for *Frozen KIDS*
2. Script pick-up for *Matilda The Musical JR.*

We're planning to have *Matilda The Musical JR.* cast members pick up their costumes in-person. We have yet to decide on dates and times.

About Our Virtual Musicals

Our first virtual musical of *Frozen KIDS* was a success! The performances were held in Zoom Webinars. Audience members were able to:

1. Spectate the performance without being on the call itself and turning on cameras and microphones.
2. See all cast members performing the dances in "Gallery View."
3. Only see the people on stage during the scenes.

The *Matilda The Musical JR.* performances will take place later this spring. Audience members will have the same viewing experience as they did in *Frozen KIDS*.

We're also planning to produce a musical this summer. Stay tuned on more info, which will be released in April.

The Volunteer Experience During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The following opportunities are available to volunteers for each one of our virtual musicals.

1. **Performance volunteers** attend all rehearsals and are a part of the cast. Some have speaking roles and lead warm-ups. Each one is paired up with one or more student(s). The pairs/groups provide a back-up when students forget a line. Also, friendships are formed, since they spend time together in breakout rooms on several rehearsals.
2. Responsibilities of the **Tech Crew** include selecting the cast members who need to be displayed on stage, sending cues in the Zoom chat, and playing sound effects.
3. **Costume and Prop Designers** select and design the costumes, and order the props. This is a new addition to our organization since the COVID-19 shutdown, and it's been great so far!

Our Drama Class Program has opened up more opportunities for volunteers to get more involved with our organization, which are described in the section below.

Drama Class Program

We've held drama classes on Zoom since May 2020. Here are some of the cool features:

1. Volunteers have had the opportunity to co-teach classes since September 2020.
2. Students have had the opportunity to co-teach classes since March 2021.
3. We've had three guest speakers so far: Kelly Todd (actress, director, choreographer, and Pepperdine professor), Tom Henschel (former television and stage actor), and Krista Samboy (former dancer and actress).
4. Actors from this program performed in a showcase that was live-streamed in July 2020. The same will happen on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 4:00 PM PT!
5. Volunteers lead the students through theatre games in breakout rooms.
6. Students have improved their improv, script writing, expression, and dancing skills through various in-class activities.
7. Most weeks, students are assigned optional homework.

Some Other Items

There are a few more new aspects of Anchorless that we've made to improve our organization since the pandemic hit.

1. **The Advisory Board:** This group of adults meets every month to discuss the current operational and financial state of Anchorless and to propose ideas to improve Anchorless. Hailey Staszko, the founder and former Executive Director of Anchorless, is serving as the President of this board while she's off at college. Each meeting, reports are given by Ben Henschel, the current Executive Director, and Garrett Nose, the Director of Finance. So far, productive dialogues have been held about fundraising, sponsorships, Anchorless' vision for the future, and more.
2. **Allowing more time for social interaction:** The Zoom meetings for our programs are always open at least 10 minutes early. This allows for students to chat with their friends and our volunteers to build social interaction skills and have a good time.