



# ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services  
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 15, 2020

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Alameda County Public Health Department

## Alameda County Highlights COVID-19 Guidance Available for the Arts Community

**ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA** – COVID-19 has disrupted all aspects of life in Alameda County. Since the Shelter in Place Orders issued in March, the State and Alameda County have restricted activities that are high risk for spreading this deadly virus. The visual and performing arts are an essential part of Alameda County’s community and economy. Throughout the state, 1 in 10 jobs are part of the creative economy. The arts community has been deeply impacted by COVID-19.

During the pandemic, the visual and performing arts continue to provide opportunities for individuals to express themselves, connect with others, and uplift and strengthen our whole community. On October 20, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors will proclaim support of October as National Arts and Humanities Month and will recognize the 2020 Alameda County Arts Leadership Award recipients. In support of these efforts and in recognition of the important role that the arts have in our community, Alameda County is sharing guidance with organizations and artists regarding currently permitted visual and performing arts activities.

“The arts are essential and make Alameda County a vibrant place to live and work,” said Alameda County Board of Supervisors President Richard Valle, who serves District 2. “We must continue to take the necessary precautions against COVID-19, but there are avenues for arts organizations and artists to engage with the public and create solutions for the world we share. Let’s continue to support the arts and allow it to help us get through these challenging times.”

Visual and performing arts organizations and artists can safely engage residents in locally permitted activities by using local and state guidance to put procedures in place that limit the risk of spreading COVID-19. Complete information can be found on the Alameda County COVID-19 website: [covid-19.acgov.org](https://covid-19.acgov.org)

### Visual and Performing Arts activities permitted to operate in Alameda County with COVID-19 safety measures and limited capacities:

- Visual and Performing Arts Camps for Youth ([Capacity Restrictions](#))
- Dance, Movement and Other Fitness Classes ([Indoor 10% Capacity](#); [Outdoor and Open-Air with Capacity Restrictions](#))
- Arts and Culture Museums ([Indoor 25% Capacity](#); [Outdoor and Open-Air with Social Distancing Restrictions](#))
- Visual Art and Exhibition Retail Stores ([Indoor 25% Capacity](#); [Outdoor and Open-Air with Social Distancing Restrictions](#))
- Performing Arts Recording, Live-Streaming and Broadcasting Events ([Outdoor Only and No Audience](#))

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- Visual and Performing Arts and Cultural Gatherings for Attendees in Vehicles watching live or pre-recorded presentations, performances and other forms of entertainment ([Capacity Restrictions](#))

For questions about guidance and technical assistance, please email [COVIDRecovery@acgov.org](mailto:COVIDRecovery@acgov.org).

“COVID-19 has changed our lives in many ways, including how we participate in and celebrate the arts,” said Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County Interim Health Officer. “This virus still poses a risk to our communities, but with the appropriate COVID-19 measures in place, Alameda County artists and arts organizations can safely provide programs and services to the community.”

Rachel Osajima, Director of the Alameda County Arts Commission said, “I want to thank the Alameda County Public Health Department for sharing guidance Alameda County arts organizations can use to safely reopen some activities. Arts organizations are essential to our community and are an instrumental part of rebuilding our economy.”

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