

Media Contact:

Megan Bommarito; megan.bommarito@austin.utexas.edu

Statement Regarding Spring Performances at The Department of Theatre and Dance at The University of Texas at Austin

Given the urgency of the situation regarding COVID-19, the recommendations from leadership at The University of Texas at Austin, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), it is with great consideration and sadness that we have made the difficult decision to suspend the remainder of our Spring 2020 Season indefinitely. This suspension applies to mainstage season performances, studio productions and all public events at the department for the remainder of the semester.

This situation is constantly evolving and we are working closely with our partners at The University of Texas and the College of Fine Arts to determine what this will look like for our department. We will share updates as we receive them through our mail list (join our mail list here). Those who have purchased tickets to either Sense and Sensibility or (R)evolution may convert tickets to a donation, exchange tickets for a gift certificate or request a refund by emailing tickets@texasperformingarts.org or by calling 512.471.1444 or 800.678.6010. Please note that email is preferred as University of Texas and Texas Performing Arts staff are currently working remotely.

For those interested in ways to support our students, faculty, staff and the creation of new and engaging work in future seasons, we suggest the following:

- Consider holding on to your ticket for suspended season events if it makes sense for you and your budget. The global arts community is suffering in the wake of isolation, closures and required social distancing and the work generated within the Department of Theatre and Dance is not immune to these hardships. Your support of the department and student-driven work is fundamental in our ability to continue to serve our community and present powerful and engaging performances on our stages.
- Consider making a <u>donation</u> to the Department of Theatre and Dance in an effort to support future programming and the education and cultivation of emerging arts leaders for the next generation.

We thank you for your continued support of the Department of Theatre and Dance at The University of Texas at Austin. While we understand these uncertain times are difficult for us all, we are hopeful that these precautionary measures will allow us to get back to the business of supporting student work and sharing meaningful performances soon.

Be well and we look forward to seeing you at the theatre again in the future.