COVID MITIGATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Iowa Young Writers’ Studio Summer Residential Program 2022

The following policies and procedures will be implemented by the Iowa Young Writers’ Studio for the in-person sessions of the 2022 Summer Residential Program to guard against infection and transmission of Covid-19. These policies and procedures may change and evolve as the pandemic does.

1. **First and foremost, we strongly encourage all students who attend an in-person session to be fully vaccinated and boosted.** Because of Iowa state law, we cannot require vaccination. We will highly encourage our adult staff to be vaccinated and boosted.

2. Each student will live in a double room with a roommate. In our view, housing students in single rooms to reduce the risk of infection is not worth the lost opportunities to spend time with roommates and connect.

3. Masks will be encouraged (but not required) in certain crowded indoor areas such as classrooms and meeting rooms.

4. Social distancing may be required in certain crowded indoor areas such as classrooms and meeting rooms.

5. All classrooms and meeting rooms in which IYWS events occur will have ventilation with high quality (MERV-13) filtration. Portable HEPA air purifiers will be used in situations where additional ventilation is required. The dormitory where students will live, and the dining hall where they will eat, are both located in Catlett Hall, a new (2017) building with excellent ventilation and air purification.

6. Classes and other camp events may be held outdoors if weather permits.

7. The University of Iowa cleans and disinfects all campus facilities—classrooms, dormitory rooms, restrooms, common areas—according to the CDC “Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting.”

8. Any student who shows any symptoms of a Covid-19-like illness will be asked to take a rapid antigen test immediately. If the test is negative, but the symptoms persist, the student will be placed in a single dormitory room and asked, but not required, to wear a mask when indoors in close company with other students and staff. (A student who volunteers to take a PCR test at this time, and tests negative, will be allowed to continue living with their roommate). A quarantined student will be asked to take a rapid antigen the following day. This process will continue until A) the symptoms abate and the student rapid tests negative or B) the student rapid tests positive. In case A, the student will be allowed to return to living with their roommate. In case B, the student will be asked to take a PCR test. If the PCR test is positive, the student will be moved to a dedicated
isolation room where they will be housed and looked after until they can be picked up by their emergency contact (see 9).

9. Every student who attends an in-person session will be required to designate an emergency contact who can travel to Iowa City and pick them up from the program within 24 hours of a positive PCR test. The University of Iowa cannot provide isolation rooms for infected students for more than 24 hours.

10. Any student who shows any symptoms of a Covid-19-like illness and declines to take a rapid antigen test and/or declines to move to a single room will be sent home from the program.

11. Any student who fails to adhere to these policies, or who recklessly or deliberately poses a risk of infection to another student or to a staff member, will be sent home from the program.