



March 18, 2020

During this uncertain time, I want to keep you informed on how Eastern Music Festival is moving forward amid the current situation regarding COVID-19.

As noted last week, EMF student enrollment and 2020 season program planning continues, and all summer activities are still on schedule. When this health crisis is past, we look forward to gathering again to experience the music and community of EMF.

With the CDC recommendation to limit gatherings to no more than 10 people and that the City of Greensboro has closed access to the Cultural Arts Center (our home office location), effective March 18, our EMF office will close temporarily. The facility closure will remain in place until further notice. We will continue monitoring the COVID-19 guidance with the intention of reopening our home office as soon as permissible.

All year-round EMF staff are working remotely. Each may be reached via email:

- Chris Williams, Executive Director: [cwilliams@easternmusicfestival.org](mailto:cwilliams@easternmusicfestival.org)
- Melissa Edwards, Director of Education: [melissa@easternmusicfestival.org](mailto:melissa@easternmusicfestival.org)
- Kelly Swindell, Media and Communications Director: [kswindell@easternmusicfestival.org](mailto:kswindell@easternmusicfestival.org)
- Deborah Kintzing, Director of Development: [dkintzing@easternmusicfestival.org](mailto:dkintzing@easternmusicfestival.org)

I want to personally reassure you that EMF is being proactive and vigilant and will continue to keep you updated during the COVID-19 situation. At this time, EMF student enrollment and program planning will continue, and all summer activities are still on schedule.

We have a task force closely monitoring the situation, and if we need to make changes, we will inform you without delay. Any modifications will be based on public health recommendations and the decisions of our venue partners at Guilford College and the City of Greensboro. EMF will prioritize the health and safety of our students, audience, artists, staff, and community.

We also understand that these are the utmost of unpredictable times. 2020 Season Package Renewals will continue through the month by mail or phone. Our box office partner at Triad Stage is available by phone (336-272-0160) or for general questions via email ([boxoffice@triadstage.org](mailto:boxoffice@triadstage.org)), You can secure your seats and support EMF with assurances. 2020 Season Subscription Packages go on sale to the general public on April 1, 2020.

EMF is not alone in this challenging time: we are all affected by the global COVID-19 crisis and working through it together. Our board and our community of students, faculty, patrons, guest artists, and staff have already shown great passion and support for what we do each summer, and on behalf of everyone at EMF, thank you for your concern and support.

I look forward to seeing you this summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Williams".

Chris Williams  
Executive Director  
Eastern Music Festival

To learn more about prevention information on the CDC website,  
visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html)