COVID-19 Guidelines for a Healthy and Successful Event

As a unit of Georgia Southern University, the Garden closely follows governmental and epidemiological recommendations regarding COVID-19. Please consider these guidelines to protect the health of your guests and ensure the success of your event. The Garden is only the venue and cannot be held liable for the behavior of your attendees or any consequences which may result. You are responsible for implementing the following measures to ensure the health of your guests and the community:

- Face coverings are required when interacting with Garden staff
- Bland Cottage occupancy limited to immediate bridal party and photographer
- All other buildings except Heritage Pavilion restrooms and kitchen will remain closed
- All caterers, food servers, bartenders and other event staff must wear face coverings and ensure social distancing of 6 feet or more when serving and otherwise interacting with guests
- Anyone entering the Garden must use hand sanitizer at entry (sanitizer at this location provided by Garden)
- Please provide hand sanitizer to guests in multiple locations (sanitizer at these locations, such as tables, sign-in tables etc., provided by renter)
- All Georgia residents and visitors are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings as practicable while outside their home or place of residence, except when eating, drinking, or exercising outdoors. (Georgia.gov/covid-19). Strongly encourage face coverings when around people who do not share a household, especially where other social distancing measures (eg. 6’ distancing) are difficult to maintain (CDC Guidelines for Events).
- Plan seating at least 6 feet apart

Good ideas to consider for a healthy event:

- Reduce the size of your event
- Limit guests to local populations
- Remind guests who do not feel well to stay home to avoid infecting others
- Encourage those in high risk (eg. elderly grandparents) to participate virtually rather than in person
- Create a signature greeting for your event to replace handshakes and hugs
- Eliminate check-in lines, receiving lines, and other close arrangements of guests
- Seat guests together who have been living or sheltering together
- Call people up to bar, buffet, and dance floor by table rather than individually.
- Limit dancers on dance floor to those sharing households, require dancers to wear masks, or eliminate dancing.
- Disinfect microphones between users, such as after toasts and speeches
Governor Kemp’s current Executive Order states the following:

Large Gatherings

Unless it is related to an activity or business that meets the criteria of essential critical infrastructure, gatherings of more than 50 people are banned unless there is at least six feet between each person.

Executive Orders Are Enforceable by Law

Governor Kemp issued an executive order authorizing the Georgia State Patrol, state law enforcement officers, and sheriffs to ensure that Georgia residents, visitors, and businesses comply with the measures outlined in his executive orders. If you are found violating or not complying with the order, you can receive a warning or be charged with a misdemeanor offense.

Please sign and return this statement to the Garden (garden@georgiasouthern.edu) as soon as possible but at least one week prior to scheduled event.

I have read the above information and understand that the Garden is only the venue for my event and is not responsible for the behavior of event attendees or any outcomes which may result. I accept that I am fully responsible for implementing measures to ensure the health of my guests and the community.

Signed

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Date

10/9/2020