



Wednesday, March 11, 2020  
9:00 PM PST  
Long Beach, California

**Statement regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19 Pandemic)**

The Los Angeles Youth Arts Organization continues to monitor the situation regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. The health and well-being of the performers in our ensembles Vessel Drum and Bugle Corps, City Sound Drum & Bugle Corps, and Vessel Indoor Percussion is our number one priority.

Today, Winter Guard International (WGI Sport of the Arts) announced that at the direction of Dayton & Montgomery County Public Health, and in consultation with the Ohio Department of Health, and Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, the 2020 WGI World Championships for Color Guard, Percussion, and Winds scheduled to take place in Dayton, Ohio in April has been cancelled. While this decision was not an easy one to make, as it affects many programs and performers across the country, we thank Winter Guard International (WGI) for taking the safety of its performers very seriously in all decisions regarding the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The Los Angeles Youth Arts Organization will continue to follow the guidelines set forth by the State of California, the San Bernardino County Public Health Department, the Riverside County Public Health Department, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the World Health Organization (WHO) in regards to all decisions pertaining to the health and well-being of our performers. As of this writing, all percussion ensemble rehearsals and Southern California Percussion Alliance (SCPA) events scheduled to be in attendance by Vessel Indoor Percussion are proceeding as planned. The remainder of the Winter Guard International (WGI) season has been cancelled. All Vessel Drum and Bugle Corps and City Sound Drum & Bugle Corps rehearsals are temporarily postponed until further notice. The Los Angeles Youth Arts Organization and its ensemble's staff will continue to monitor the situation and remain in contact with the event organizers regarding all future events.

Please refer to our websites [LAYouthArts.org](http://LAYouthArts.org), [VesselDrumCorps.org](http://VesselDrumCorps.org), [City-Sound.org](http://City-Sound.org), and [VesselIndoorPercussion.org](http://VesselIndoorPercussion.org), as well as our various social media pages for any scheduling updates for our planned events. The Los Angeles Youth Arts Organization will be contacting all members via email or other means with important updates and communications

While many performers and instructors across the country are disappointed with the outcome of this situation, we urge all participants in every ensemble to try to remember the positives: while the season may be coming to a pre-mature close, the friendships and experiences you've had thus far will last forever. Hang on to those positive memories as you continue your careers as performers and musicians, in whatever capacity that may be.

Please stay healthy and safe as we navigate this difficult time.

Thank you,

Nathaniel Lewis

**President**

Los Angeles Youth Arts Organization

**Executive Director**

Vessel Drum and Bugle Corps  
City Sound Drum & Bugle Corps  
Vessel Indoor Percussion

Sammy Knapp

**Media & Content Coordinator**

Los Angeles Youth Arts Organization  
Vessel Drum and Bugle Corps  
City Sound Drum & Bugle Corps  
Vessel Indoor Percussion

