

## **A Call for Mutual Aid: Seeking Immediate Donations for Mask Making**

The Richmond Arts & Cultural Workers Coalition (supported by Studio Two Three and 1708 Gallery) and in collaboration with VCU Arts and VCU da Vinci Center will engage skilled artists in the production of protective face masks for essential workers.

While the messaging around masks has been somewhat unclear, we know from flu research that widespread mask-wearing [can help decrease transmission rates](#) when utilized alongside frequent hand-washing and social-distancing. These actions are cumulative: the more we do to limit exposure, the more the risk is reduced for all of us.

### **PROCESS**

The coalition will follow a strict set of safety protocols, including:

- Maintaining an appropriate distance between workers (15 - 20 feet between each workstation)
- Maintaining a schedule to ensure that volunteer participation does not exceed 8 individuals per session
- Providing sanitized workstations, gloves and masks for each volunteer

We will utilize a templated set of guidelines for mask-making and medical-grade fabric (30% polyester and 70% cotton), generously donated by U-Fab.

### **WHO**

The coalition has 500 yards of medical-grade fabric which will produce approximately 5,000 masks. These masks will be distributed to:

- MCV Medical Staff
- Home & Public Healthcare Workers
- GRTC Bus Drivers
- Other Essential Workers, as requested

### **HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?**

1. **Make a donation!** Studio Two Three is immediately seeking:
  - a. Clorox Wipes
  - b. Medical Gloves
  - c. Barbasol Sanitizing Tabs
  - d. Hand Sanitizer
  - e. Cash donations on venmo @StudioTwoThree-S for the associated costs of the production of masks

- f. You can deliver these donations to Studio Two Three between the hours of 10:00am and 3:00pm Monday - Wednesday. We request that you please deposit them in the box outside of our main studio entrance.
- 2. Make Masks at Home!**
- a. [There are three designs for different needs: MCV has requested a specific type of mask. \(that more difficult to make\), as well as a simple to make mask for general needs](#)
    - i. You can deliver, or mail, your home-made masks to Studio Two Three between the hours of 10:00am and 3:00pm Monday - Wednesday. We request that you please package your masks in 1-gallon ziplock bags and deposit them in the box outside of our main studio entrance.
    - ii. We cannot accept masks made with patterned or pre-used fabric, please do not donate them.