Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance

The safety of anyone in our programs is of paramount importance and should be taken with the utmost of seriousness. With the risk of Covid-19 infection, we have issued this document.

In addition to our dress code and safety guidelines and instrument use guidelines, we will have the following guidance for anyone who is in our lab to either visit or work. This guidance applies to both minors and adults. All participants will receive safety training regarding PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) prior to working in our lab. The general guidance is that when in any doubt as to what you should do regarding safety, ask one of the scientists or assistant scientists.

All persons on the lab premises will need to wear the following in the laboratory at all times:

- **Face mask;** We encourage all participants to have their own masks (cloth masks are fine!) whenever possible. We will issue surgical masks to participants as needed, but we do have a limited supply. We will instruct you on their proper use.

- **Lab coat;** We will issue lab coats to those who do not have their own coats. Each coat will be labeled with the researcher’s name, put on upon entering the lab, and removed (and hung by the door) upon leaving the laboratory.

- **Eye protection;** unless working on a microscope, you must always wear eye protection. We will issue eye protection to those who do not have their own eyeglasses, lab glasses or goggles.

- **Gloves;** when performing bench work in the lab, you must always wear gloves. If you are not performing bench work, you need not wear gloves, but you should wash your hands before and after you wear gloves and/or move to a new station or instrument. Never touch your face, phone, faucet handle, or doorknob when wearing gloves. We will provide disposable nitrile gloves and will instruct you on their proper use.

- **Footwear:** You are required to wear closed-toe, hard-soled shoes that are designated for ‘lab use only’. You will **NOT** be allowed in our lab without them. On the exceptional occasion you arrive without them, you will be issued booties. If you are a habitual offender who arrives without footwear for lab-use only, we reserve the right to deny you to participate that day. We provide shoe storage shelves outside the lab where you can leave your ‘lab-use only’ shoes or sneakers when you leave for the day and change into when you arrive.

When you are in the cafeteria or on the patio, please practice social distancing. You need not wear your mask unless you are using the area for a meeting, in which case we recommend wearing your mask. We will give further instructions on-site regarding safety in these areas.