



Recital Info and Tips

PLEASE READ!!!

This document contains important information

Recital Performances

On the day or evening of the performance, all students should arrive at the theater at least 45 minutes to 1/2 an hour prior to show-time. All parents working backstage should arrive 1 hour prior to show-time to ensure that there is a guardian backstage for the younger students, should they arrive early. The teaching staff I cannot watch over any of the younger students, as we must remain in the backstage area. We will be doing three complete performances, Friday and Saturday evening at 7:00 PM, and one on Sunday June afternoon at 2:00 PM. All students are expected to perform in all three shows. Please notify a staff member if you will not be performing in all three shows. Our performances are approximately 3 hours long, with one 20 minute intermission. Please note that all theater doors will be locked prior to the show, and the only way you may enter the theater is through the main doors upstairs.

Backstage Guidelines For Students

Junior, Intermediates and Advanced students should warm-up and stretch to prevent serious injuries. Acrobatic students should also warm-up their backs for arches. Students should try to run through routines together prior to performing.

All students should bring a **light snack**, and some games, reading material, coloring books, or videos to occupy their time backstage. Televisions and video machines are available in the younger student's rooms. **Snack foods such as chocolate bars, chips, cheesies, grape juice, etc. will be taken away from students, and returned after the performance.** These foods will very likely stain your child's or another child's costume. Please do not send them backstage with these items. Also note that sugary foods and candies often cause children to get overexcited. Remember that there is only a handful of volunteer parents to watch over a large number of

children. Excited children are difficult to handle, and hard on the nerves. Please be kind to your backstage parents and send appropriate snack foods like fruit, cheese, carrots, crackers, snack bars, apple juice, milk, etc. Students should have snacks after their performance if they are in the first half of the show, and before they perform if they are not on until the 2nd half of the show. Organize specific snack times for each group so that they are all sitting and eating together. Make sure they are careful with their costumes. Due to allergies, no peanut butter snacks are allowed. All snack wrappers and leftovers should be thrown in waste. Please leave the classrooms neat and clean.

All students must remain inside their respective classrooms during recital performances. This insures you can be found in time to perform. This rule applies to Senior and Intermediate students as well as our younger groups. It is most often the older students who give our backstage parents a difficult time and who must be searched for when their curtain call approaches. Our backstage parents are to be respected and obeyed. Any student who demonstrates a disrespectful attitude towards our volunteers will be denied their performance opportunity. All parent volunteers are asked to report such behavior to Nancy immediately so that the appropriate action can be taken.

All students are to remain backstage in their assigned classrooms during the entire performance, including intermission. Parent volunteers are to enforce this rule and report any students who don't comply with backstage rules to Ms. Briana immediately. Students who disrespect our backstage volunteers verbally or through non-compliance will be immediately barred from recital participation without warning or refund.

Recital Tips For Parents of Young Children

We have approximately two hundred students at our studio, and our productions are at least 3 hours long, including a 15-20 minute intermission. This is a long time to expect a very young child to sit still and you may want to consider arranging a babysitter for your younger children, in order for you to really enjoy the show.

All the students have worked very hard to prepare for their stage performances. I realize that many of our younger students find it tiring to stay until the end of both evening shows and an afternoon matinee, and many of you chose to leave the performance following their performance. If you are planning to take your young dancers home prior to the completion of the show, please do not purchase any center row tickets for yourself or anyone else planning to leave mid-way through. It is very discouraging to the remaining performers to see their audience disappear after the first half of the show. If you plan to take your younger student into the audience with you, you will have to purchase a seat for them, or seat them on your lap, since all seats are assigned.

Stage Practices / Rehearsals

All stage practices and dress rehearsals are mandatory. Students unable to attend must provide their instructor with a valid reason in order to be excused, prior to the actual dates of the practices. Students who miss these practices may lose their privilege to perform in the show.

Stage practices require regular dancewear, while dress rehearsals are in full costume. Schedules are always posted a couple of weeks in advance.

Theater Etiquette

Recital is the grand finale of the dance year, where our students get to show off all they've learned with the flare of a Broadway show. We like to keep the performances as professional as possible, and ask all students, parents and audience members to follow general theater etiquette.

- * Please turn off all electronic devices, including cell phones and pagers while inside the auditorium.
- * Absolutely no food or drink inside the theater. Water is allowed.
- * No flash photography. Photo and videos cameras must be small and unobtrusive to other audience members
- * Cheering by way of generous applause, rather than shouting individual names. Cheering during lifts, tricks and anything that catches your eye during the middle of a routine is strongly encouraged
- * No standing or moving through seats or aisle during the performance. All audience members must be seated
- * No entering or leaving the theater during the performance. If you must leave please wait until students are between routines, and use the upper exits only

Please remember that all of the children taking part in this year's recital have been working tremendously hard for this final performance opportunity. Please reward them with plenty of applause and cheers. You do not have to wait until the end of the show to do this. If you see

them do something spectacular in the middle of the routine, please cheer for them! Please respect their hard work by making an effort to remain for the entire performance, even if your child, friend or relative is done after the first few songs or first half of the show. It is discouraging for the children to see their audience decrease in size, as the show progresses. Also, please have young children remain seated and not wondering the stairs or walking right up to the stage. This is very distracting and creates tremendous safety concerns. Our shows are long, and perhaps too much for young children to endure.

Costume Changes

Costume changes occur within the classroom and not in the washrooms. The washrooms are not cleaned over the weekend, and are the worst possible place to change in. Windows will be concealed in your classroom, and your privacy is assured. All rooms will be clearly marked according to dance level and dance routine. Those students in multiple levels should change in a class with others their own age, and where most of their classmates are located. Costumes should be labeled and kept together. Do not rush when changing, and make sure you have all of your belongings in order for the next performance before you leave at the end of the show. Once you set -up on Friday, you can keep all of your belongings in the rooms until the last show on Sunday. Make sure students are not wearing any jewelry. Small earrings are acceptable. Female students are not to wear underwear under their tights. It is **very** unsightly from stage. Please check with your instructor as to what tights and costume accessories are necessary.

There is a quick change area for those students with only one or two routines in between changes. Please make sure you place the costume necessary in the quick change area prior to needing it, and removing the one you changed out of as soon as possible. Those students requiring multiple leg wear should wear their beige tights as a base, and simply add whatever color they need on top, without removing the beige. Changing tights completely is the most time consuming part of a quick-change, especially after dancing and when you are a little sweaty. Keeping the beige tights on at all times helps relieve some of the discomfort experienced when changing in front of others, because the beige dance tights provide very good coverage.

Make-Up Requirements

All students will require stage make-up. This consists of eyeliner, mascara or false eyelashes, base, blush, eye shadow and bright lipstick. Stage lights wash out all color so make-up should be overstated. It may look terribly bright up close, but it will look great on stage. Extending the eye-liner from the lower eye lid up towards the eyebrows is a professional and very effective way to exaggerate the eyes onstage. False eyelashes also help enhance the eyes, and are actually less of a hassle than mascara. Eyebrows should be darkened with eyeliner as well. Specialty make-up and glitter may be worn, if approved by your instructor.

Backstage Security

Any parent wishing to enter the backstage area during the production must have verified their presence with Briana prior to the dress rehearsal weekend. Only backstage volunteers will be allowed to enter the backstage area. Parents will not be allowed backstage to assist their child in changing unless they have signed up as a volunteer, and intend to help all of the children in that group for the entire performance. Your name must be on the volunteer schedule to remain in the backstage area during our productions. The studio is taking a firm stand on this, to insure as little chaos as possible, as well as for the safety and security of all children.

Backstage personnel will have to present a colored bracelet provided by Briana to our security guard to enter the backstage area. You may accompany your child to their change area at the start of the show, help them get settled, and then you will be asked to leave.

There is no visitation allowed during intermission, and the children will not be allowed in the cafeteria area at this time. Please do not harass the security guard to visit your children, and tell them ahead of time that you will see them only after the show.

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Leaving Early / Sign -Out Lists

Parents of Predance students may be concerned that their child won't want to stay backstage for the entire show. Once they have performed, these students will be allowed to leave after intermission, or to sit in the audience with their parents, however seats cannot be saved for them, unless you purchased them ahead of time.

Sign-out sheets are available at the studio and at dress rehearsal for parents wishing to take small children home or into the audience at intermission once they have performed. You must have filled this out ahead of time, and only the person on the list can sign out the child. Please do not wait until the actual performance date to choose to sign out your child. All students under the age of 16 must be signed out by a parent. Once you have signed out, you are not allowed backstage again until the next performance. Intermission is the only time sign-out can occur. This year there will be an exception and children in PRESCHOOL HIP HOP will be allowed to leave after intermission. ONLY IF SIGNED OUT AHEAD OF TIME.

You will not be allowed backstage during intermission if you are not on the volunteer or sign-out list. All students leaving at intermission must be signed out by a parent, to ensure the safety of all children backstage. You may be required to show identification if the security workers are unfamiliar with you. We will have very tight security this year backstage. Students leaving to watch the show are only allowed to do so at intermission. Once you have left the backstage area, you will not be permitted back in, therefore you should only leave if you are done performing, and do not plan on being onstage for the second half of the show or for Finale. Students performing both before and after intermission, must remain backstage for the entire performance.