

Dress Rehearsal

Why a dress rehearsal?

Often parents question the importance of a Dress Rehearsal for their child. In fact, the key to a successful production is having dancers perform and rehearse in their performance setting.

- The stage is much larger than the classroom and is often intimidating to the young dancers.
- The stage lights can be frightening and disorienting to young dancers.
- Modifications can be made at dress rehearsal. A student who misses the rehearsal will not have the chance to practice any changes onstage.
- Students often rely on the classroom mirrors to help them with spacing and formations. Having the chance to dance without the security of the mirror before the performance is very important for their confidence.
- Students have the chance to practice their stage entrances and exits and get used to being in such a large space.
- **Confidence is critical to a successful performance. Having a rehearsal before the performance is vital! Dress rehearsal offers your child the chance to feel ready for the show.**



And there's another big reason why the rehearsals are important. One of the main objectives of our curriculum is to teach the spirit of teamwork and commitment to classmates. When dancers miss the rehearsal, the result can be confusion for the remaining students (an absence affects spacing and timing).

We run an organized and timely dress rehearsal; your help with the process will guarantee a professional production.

Please have your dancer dressed and ready 15 minutes prior to their onstage time. We will run on schedule.

Where are the dress rehearsals?

All dress rehearsals & performances are held at *West Forsyth High School: 4155 Drew Road, Cumming, GA 30040*

Dancer Drop Off & Pick Up at Dress Rehearsal:

Parents or guardians should bring the students to the theater and are responsible for their dancers at all times. Upon arrival, please sit in the theater with your class until you are called on stage for your rehearsal. **CDA Staff is always on hand to answer any questions.**

The Basics!

- Cameras & Video Recorders are allowed at Dress Rehearsal **ONLY!** Please use this time to take pictures and video your dancer. Professional DVD's are available from our performances so that you can sit back and enjoy the show! Encore Productions: www.encorevid.com
- Please be sure you ask any questions you have concerning your dancer's costumes and/or headpieces prior to dress rehearsal and performances. In case you may have a question, CDA Staff will be on hand to assist you in anyway at the Dress Rehearsals.
- Label all dance attire, shoes, tights, costumes, etc. Everyone will have the same, this helps keep your items safe and secure.
- No additional colored barrettes or bows in the hair.
- All ballet shoes must have strings tucked neatly inside.
- All dancers need stage make up! The lights will wash them out without color. Red lipstick and blush are mandatory. Additional make up is optional and CDA sells a Stage Ready Make Up Kit for only \$10.00 to simplify your dancer's make up needs.
- Safety pin all costumes as a precaution.
- If your rehearsal is right after a previous show is letting out, please be respectful of those patrons leaving.
- No glitter spray on hair or costumes.
- Dress rehearsal times are ONSTAGE TIMES. Dancers are to be dressed and ready 15 minutes prior to their onstage time. We will not hold a rehearsal for any late or missing performers. Because we ask you are dressed and ready 15 minutes prior to your onstage time, we may go onstage up to 15 minutes early, if we are running ahead!
- The dress rehearsal & performance is not a one-day activity. Gather all costumes, tights, shoes, accessories and makeup several days in advance so you'll know if something is missing or isn't right. Make a checklist of your child's routines, listing the costume, tights, shoes, and any accessories, and refer to it to make sure you have all your supplies before going to the theater. We have an easy checklist you can download on our website!

SHOWTIME



Dancer Drop Off & Pick Up—SHOW:

- Dancers may be dropped off at the Dancer Drop Off Door 45 minutes prior to the showtime.
- Backstage Moms arrive 1 hour prior to showtime.
- Upon dropping your dancer off, you will receive a CDA Security Card (all dancers 3 yr.—5th grade). You will be required to present this security card after the show to pick your dancer up backstage. Please send one female parent to pick up dancers. No Dad's backstage, please!

Ticket Sales & More...

- After ticket sales are taken down online; any remaining tickets for the shows will be sold at the door beginning at Dress Rehearsals and continuing throughout the performance run, until the tickets are sold out. However, many of our shows sell out well before the performance weekend, therefore we suggest you pre-purchase your tickets prior to the show times. **Doors into the theater will open approximately 30 minutes prior to the showtime.** **Seating is reserved based on your ticket.**

Performers:

- Dancers need to arrive to the theater dressed and ready. Full make up and hair should be done prior to dancer drop off.
- Layer your tights! If you have multiple dances in the show, layer your tights in order. For example, most ballet numbers are done first. Tan tights can go under pink to make it easier to get them off when changing costumes backstage.
- All dancers are to stay until the end of the show to participate in the final curtain call! If you have an emergency and need to pick up your dancer early, simply let us know at the Dancer Drop Off Door upon arrival.
- Please, no panties under tights!
- Nude leotards can be purchased from CDA should you need a bra or leotard under costume.

Audience Etiquette:

- Enthusiastic applause is encouraged; however, it is never appropriate to scream out a child's name or yell in any way.
- Because we present a professional performance, we ask that everyone remain seated during the entire performance. If you do leave the auditorium during the show you will be allowed back into the auditorium only between dances.
- Children must remain seated for the entire performance. If you think they will have a hard time remaining seated during the performance, please do not bring them inside the theater. Allowing children to run around or otherwise disrupt the performance is not fair to other audience members enjoying the show or to the dancers who are performing.
- Parents who bring infants to the performance should quickly exit the auditorium if the infant begins to cry or create a distraction for the audience.
- For the safety of our dancers, Flash Photography is strictly prohibited during our shows. (**Flashes can blind a dancer onstage, and cause them to become dizzy and/or fall.**) CDA's choreography is copy-righted; therefore, video recording during the show is also strictly prohibited. Again, professional dvd's are for sale by Encore Video, so we encourage you to sit back and enjoy the show without the hassle of trying to sneak in a video! www.encorevid.com
- Each patron must present a ticket at the door to be scanned for entrance. **No ticket—No entrance.** Children 3 & under do not require a ticket, but must sit on an adult lap near the back of the theater & exit quickly if disruptive.
- Any items left in the theater prior to the doors opening will be removed and can be picked up at the front lobby ticket table.