

Attendance Policy

Our productions take the work of each one of us to be successful. Being cast in a part does not guarantee that you will perform the part or dance the part in every performance.

Rehearsal will begin at the posted times, dancers are expected to arrive ahead of the scheduled time (at least 15 minutes) in order to be well warmed up and ready to dance (in proper attire, leotard, tights, bun) at the assigned times. All rehearsals will be held at COYB until tech week, when we will be in the theater. Costume Fittings are “rehearsals;” attendance is mandatory.

Rehearsal absences greatly impact the ability for choreography (and costuming) to progress week to week, and for the dancers’ ability to master the material, particularly when setting new patterns/spacing. Occasionally a production will never have the opportunity to work together as a full cast until “Put-Togethers.” This increases the stress on all the individuals involved.

“Availability” is your commitment to us for when you are regularly able to come to rehearsals. Please be as clear as possible—availability does have the potential to effect casting decisions.

“Conflicts” are known mandatory school and family functions (see illness/injury section and exceptions are of course made for unexpected events such as funerals). It is the dancer’s responsibility to learn any missed material BEFORE the next rehearsal. Conflicts are NOT permitted during “Put-Togethers,” the last two weekends leading up to tech week, and Tech Week itself. Understand that missing three Saturday rehearsals in a ten-week rehearsal schedule is 1/3 of the rehearsal time. If you have an excessive number of conflicts (generally around 3 or more) during a production period, please speak with the Rehearsal Director (??) and realize that this will effect casting and staff may ask you to reconsider your participation in this production.

School Dances (Homecoming/Prom)

Dances are not an "academic or family commitment" and therefore NOT an excused absence. Performing with COYB is a huge commitment; we understand working with dancers and their families around family and school commitments, however, extracurricular activities are a choice of how to spend your time. In committing to COYB, each dancer has in effect committed their extracurricular time to COYB. If you have made us aware of homecoming as a conflict we will do our best to schedule your rehearsals earlier in the day, and expect you to be present. We will make every attempt to accommodate you and to try to arrange the schedule such that you are free after 5:30pm. However, this greatly depends on the roles you are cast in and progress of those pieces to date.

Illness/Injury

If your dancer is running a fever and/or having active symptoms (vomiting etc.), please STAY HOME. Dancers are responsible for any missed material as with any other missed rehearsal. If you are injured or have none of the symptoms above, we expect dancers to attend rehearsal and observe in order to learn the day’s material.

Outreaches

In participating in a production you are making a commitment to COYB as a company. The company’s mission includes “part about outreaches...” Any dancer awarded a lead role is

expected to attend **every** outreach. All other dancers will be required to attend a set number of outreaches.

For EVERY Rehearsal:

- **For safety reasons, dancers must be accompanied to and from the studio by an adult!**
- Dancers are not to leave the building without an adult chaperone or a parent.
- Arrive at least 15 minutes ahead of time in order to warm-up and be ready to dance at your scheduled rehearsal time.
- If you are late, enter the studio and wait inside to ask permission to join the rehearsal. (Tardiness and absences may affect final casting decisions.)
- There is a dressing room for changing. If you choose to wear your dancewear upon arriving and leaving, ***it must be covered completely. This is a safety issue!!!*** Do not wear dance shoes on the street.
- Proper attire for rehearsals is a leotard and tights. Gentleman may wear a white T-shirt and black dance pants or a unitard.
 - Properly fitting canvas flat ballet shoes and/or pointe shoes.
 - Fitted warmups (optional), no baggy clothing.
 - No jewelry!
- Food is to be eaten in the kitchen area only.
- NO GUM anywhere on the premises.
- All dancers should bring a water bottle and healthy snacks all rehearsals.
- **Clean up your mess!** Put food away, wash dishes, wipe tables, and clean up the floor.
- We have one microwave and approximately 50 dancers. Bring snacks that do not need to be heated in case there is a line.
- No chatting or excess noise during rehearsals. Keep noise to a minimum in the hallways and kitchen while rehearsals are taking place. (Rehearsal chaperones are to assist with enforcing this rule.)
- Pertinent questions are encouraged during rehearsals.