

LaBelle Performing Arts Performance Orientation Handout

“Tale as Old as Time” June 8th at 6:00 pm - “Beauty and the Beast” June 9th at 6:00 pm

Picture Week

- Classes take individual and group pictures during their regularly scheduled time.
- Please do not wear your costumes to or from LPA, this can cause damage them. Please use a garment bag, a large trash bag is also an inexpensive option to help protect your costumes.
- In addition to the girls and boys dressing rooms, some of the studios will be set up as extra dressing rooms.
- Teachers will help to pose your children.
- Make sure all your alterations are made early.
- Make sure you have verified with your teacher what you need in the way of tights, hair, and accessories.
- Have all of your items packed like you will be taking them to the theater for Dress Rehearsal/Performances.
- Technique classes that do not perform in the end-of-the-year shows are cancelled this week.
- BE PREPARED! Be patient, flexible and cordial, as the studio is very crowded at this time.

Basic Terminology

- “In-Studio Rehearsal” means the rehearsal in the LPA Studio #2 where the students run the show in order and practice being in front of an audience and around the many dancers.
- “Call Time” means the time a student should be in the theater, belongings secured in the proper location, performers ready to warm-up, almost completely ready to perform.
- “Tech Rehearsal” is the rehearsal where we set the lights and other technical elements of the show, do not be surprised if there is more emphasis on getting lights, sounds, etc. working correctly than on dancing during this time.
- “Dress Rehearsal” means the actual rehearsal which is run like the REAL SHOW. Everyone must be in full make-up, hair, and costumes. The show runs in the actual order without interruptions. This rehearsal will be held at the Saenger Theater.
- “Tale as Old as Time” will have a combined Tech and Dress rehearsal on June 7th.
- “Beauty and the Beast” will have Tech rehearsal on June 6th and Dress rehearsal on June 7th.
- At this point, ALL REHEARSALS are MANDATORY. If you have a conflict, please speak to your instructor.

What to Expect for In-Studio Rehearsals

- These rehearsals will take place at LPA in Studio #2.
- We will do our very best to stay on time. We will be running through dances in the order of the program.
- Only those with quick changes need to bring costumes to practice. Otherwise, there will be no costumes, makeup, or hair requirements.
- Please be patient as the studio will be crowded. We ask that everyone keep talking to a minimum.
- Appropriate shoes should be worn for each dance and hair should be pulled back and secured.

What to Expect for Tech Week

- All Tech Week rehearsals are at the Saenger Theatre. All the staff will be at the theatre.
- Parents must be responsible for their performer at all times. Students will not be allowed to roam the theater. If they are not on stage for rehearsal, they must be in the dressing room, sitting in the audience quietly or in the wings waiting to go on.
- **DO NOT** go into the lobby, we do not have access to this space during rehearsals and will be charged additional fees for unauthorized access to these areas. There are plenty of restrooms in the dressing rooms for men and women.
- Please watch your children closely; teachers are involved with rehearsal and are not able to watch other students.
- Please follow the schedule and know when your student is about to rehearse his or her piece. We would like students to be ready two numbers before so we can keep our rehearsal as punctual as possible.
- Please make sure all performers enter the stage from the wings. They will not be allowed to enter the stage from the side steps in front of the stage.
- Please note that we are required to give the Saenger staff regular breaks/meal breaks. We understand that it can be frustrating when rehearsals are running behind and we have to stop for these breaks, please understand that these crew members and LPA staff have likely been on the clock for many hours before dancers even arrive to the theatre.
- We ask for your patience during this time of preparation for the big show. Pulling together such an event takes attention to detail and the cooperation of everyone involved. We will try to keep things as close to the schedule as possible. Thank you so much for your support.

Dress Rehearsal

- Parents may take pictures and video during dress rehearsal. Please NO flash photography as it can temporarily blind performers on stage and can be dangerous. **Video and Photography are NOT allowed during the performances.** We have Swift Video Productions doing our video, order forms are available at the front desk or at the “Showcase Information” section of the website.
- We will run the finale before the dress rehearsal begins, this will allow dancers to leave after their last dance.
- Please make sure that a cover-up is worn over the performer’s costume when not on the stage. An oversized men’s button up shirt is an excellent cover up. This is to protect the costume while eating and to keep it from getting snagged on things in the audience.
- Please do not enter or exit the theater during a dance. It is proper etiquette to enter or exit between dances.
- Please keep noise in the hallways to a minimum.
- Please NO underwear under tights. If a performer needs to wear a bra, please find ways to hide the bra straps with clear straps or adjustable tan straps. No STRAPS should be seen!

Transporting Costumes and Dance Accessories

- Please do not wear costumes to or from the theater.
- Make sure every single piece of your dancer’s costume is labeled with their first and last name. Black sharpies on the tags are great or attach a piece of tape in a seam.
- Protect costumes in plastic garment bags. Large trash bags, Ziplock bags, etc. will also work.
- Place all accessories in a Ziplock bag or a shopping bag and attach to the hanger or costume bag.
- Bring backup tights!!! Pirouette’s is around the corner from the Saenger for last minute dance needs.
- If you have many costumes to keep track of, several parents have found that clothing racks can come in handy. As well as pop up laundry baskets to drop clothes in for quick changes.

Stage Makeup

- At LaBelle, we go for more natural looking stage makeup.
- Pick a base, eye and cheek colors that compliment your child’s skin tone, eyes, and hair. This makeup will be applied much heavier than normal, so as to see the child’s face better at a distance.
- For small children, try to apply mascara and eye shadow. If they can tolerate eyeliner, try, but do not force the issue. It is preferable that they be comfortable and happy.
- Practice beforehand so you are calm and steady and know what the child can tolerate.
- Blush should be heavy and applied along cheek bone to hair line.

Dressing Rooms

- Dressing Room assignments are posted on the dressing room doors and will be assigned depending on the class that your child attends.
- If you have multiple children, you are allowed to find the least crowded room that they are assigned to and change all of them there.
- Each parent is responsible for changing his/her own child.
- There are separate Female and Male dressing rooms. Please be considerate of the opposite gender and allow each the privacy they are due.
- Dressing rooms will be tight. Please be respectful to those around you.
- Consider bringing a small oscillating fan.
- Dancers may be changing in front of others, so if a dancer would like to purchase a nude leo to wear under costumes that is understandable.
- Please make sure to clean up after yourselves in the dressing room. NOTHING should be left overnight.
- Food and snacks – Water ONLY. Clean snacks (goldfish, celery, carrots, graham crackers, vanilla wafers, etc.) Nothing that will stain!!! Please do not eat or drink colored liquids in your costume, wear your cover up! Water is the best option, as even Sprite will stain.

What to Expect During the Performances

- To run the gamut of emotions: excited, scared, tired, cranky, joyful, stage fright, sorrow,...you name it.
- Try to get as much rest as possible.
- Be prepared to repair costumes and props.

Entrance to the Theatre for the Performance/Dress Rehearsal

- Enter through the Saenger stage door by the loading dock on Intendencia St.
- When dropping off a student, only one parent with a backstage pass will be allowed to enter through the rear entrance. Everyone else must enter by the front doors in the lobby.
- There will be one backstage pass per dancer.
- Only students with a ticket will be allowed in the theater. NO COSTUMES will be allowed in the audience. A cover-up must be worn over the costume.
- Patrons will not be allowed in the house until 30 minutes before show time, even parents that are there early with their child.

Backstage

- Only dancers and their backstage attendant are allowed in the dressing room area and the wings of the stage. Only one backstage attendant is allowed per dancer.
- No one will be admitted to the backstage area without the appropriate pass. If you do not have a stage pass, you will be asked to leave. Backstage passes will be given out when you pay for June tuition. Autopay customers will need to come to the front desk for their passes. Autopay for June will be charged on June 1.
- If you are not dancing, watching your child on stage, or waiting for your dance to go on immediately, the wings of the stage need to be cleared.

Things to Do to Make Dressing Room Time Easier

- Try to stay upbeat and happy to keep the dancers in good spirits. The time of preparation for the big show can be very trying on little dancers and adults alike. Try to get plenty of sleep and make sure their bellies are full.
- Be overly prepared and try to relax. Try not to rush your dancer on the way out the door.
- Be prepared for things to go wrong and be willing to roll with the punches. Have safety pins, repair kits, extra tights, hairnets, and bobby pins. DON'T be afraid to ask for help or to borrow an item.
- Bring your own "CLEAN" snacks and bottled water.
- Consider entertainment wisely:
 - iPod, iPad, DVD Player with favorite or new movies, DS, Phone. Don't forget your chargers.
 - Story books or crayons and coloring books (no markers or paints, as they could stain costumes.)
 - Please safeguard your things, as THE STUDIO IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS.

Responsibilities for Volunteer Class Helper

- Each class needs to have 2 to 3 parents who are willing to stay with the class while in the dressing room. These parents help the teacher by making sure all dancers are lined up and ready to perform 4 scenes before their dance.
- Show orders will be posted in the dressing rooms and hallways, but it is good to have a copy on your person. You can download or print off a copy off from the website at the Showcase Information page.
- These parents will help to keep the dancers in good spirits and safe.
- These parents are NOT responsible for dressing any child, except their own.
- Ensure that the children are cleaning up after themselves in the dressing rooms. Please make sure that all personal items are picked up and trash is deposited in the garbage cans.

Concessions at the Show

- **LPA Table:** LPA will have programs, pictures, and t-shirts for pickup. You may also register for summer programs and auditions for LPA Company and Professional Division.
- **Refreshments:** The Saenger will be selling refreshments at their concession stands on the day of the performance.
- **Gifts:** There will not be any gifts for sale at the theatre. Pre-sales of programs or t-shirts will be available for pick-up, but these items will not be available for purchase at the theatre, so make sure to submit your orders on time.

What if I lose this Information?

Go to the LaBelle Website: www.labelleperformingarts.com. Click on "Showcase Information."