

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How long will the show last?

A. Each recital will last approximately 2 ½ hours.

Q. Can the students watch the show? If not, where do they stay?

A. With the students' safety and security as our top priority, it is not possible for students to watch the show from the audience. If students are leaving the dressing rooms during the show, we would not be able to monitor their safety and whereabouts. The dressing rooms are the best place for the students during the show, where students are supervised by our faculty and parent volunteers. At the end of the recital, parents can pick up their students from the backstage area and the parent volunteers can ensure that each student goes with the right adult. Recital DVDs are an excellent way for students to re-live the magic of recital at home after the show.

Q. Why are parents not allowed back stage or in the dressing rooms?

A. This is for the student's safety and security. We have excellent parent volunteers who will watch your student while they are in our care. If we let every adult in the dressing rooms or back stage, it would become chaotic and possible to have a missing student. Our streamlined system makes safety the top priority.

Q. Can the parents leave during dress rehearsal?

A. We require that a parent accompany all students under the age of 11 to dress rehearsal.

Q. Can the parents and students leave during the recital?

A. If you are attending the performance, we ask that you show consideration to all the performers by staying until the end of the show. *All performers are required to stay until the end of the show.* This is for safety reasons. If the performer is not able to commit to the entire 2 ½ hour show, they will not be able to participate.

Q. Why can't videos or pictures be taken during the recital?

A. The performer's safety and theatre etiquette are two important reasons. Flashes from cameras can quickly disorient a dancer and lights on video cameras can be very distracting. We also feel the same courtesy should be extended to our performers as would be used at a professional performance. Out of consideration for other audience members, the distraction of photos (with or without flash) or videos during the show is not appropriate. As part of your child's performing arts education, we teach proper theater etiquette and we hope that you will help reinforce this as well!

Q. Why must the audience enter and exit between numbers?

A. Proper theatre etiquette is such that audience members should not enter and exit at will. Also, as the lobby doors open, light comes into the auditorium and creates a distraction for the performers. There will be ushers at the doors during the shows allowing the audience to enter and exit. Please remember, if you must visit the lobby allow yourself ample time to return to your seat before your student performs.

Q. Why are food and drink not allowed in the auditorium?

A. As guests of the Van Trease PACE, we must abide by their rules. Food and drink are not allowed in the auditorium or dressing room. Again, we ask all performers and family members to abide by these rules.

Q. Why are the students required to wear their hair in a particular way & wear make-up?

A. Theatre Arts students receive professional level training and we feel that their performance experiences should be at the professional level as well. Because students perform as a group, it is important that they look like a group on stage. Hair, make-up, and costuming are all a part of the presentation. Even the younger students will feel a sense of unity and professionalism when they take part in this quality performance etiquette. We ask that make-up be worn to highlight the face so the audience can see the performer, rather than being washed out in the bright lights of the stage. Also, girls' underwear should not be worn under costumes. It is very visible onstage under the stage lights. Please wear tights only underneath the costume.

Q. How can my student get a recital finale t-shirt?

A. All students participating in Theatre Arts recitals receive a finale t-shirt included in the price of their recital fee paid in February.