

NUTCRACKER – Helpful Information for Parents 😊

When do we arrive?

Stage and dress rehearsals, as well as shows have a specific arrival time. Please arrive at Park View H.S. on time (allow for traffic!) and be sure to check-in with cast management upon arrival.

**** NOTE:** Please arrive at PV in street clothes. **Always** have street clothes on over dance wear when coming to/from PV and ALSO when leaving the auditorium **and/or** cafeteria while at PV!! **We are sharing the school with other events and it is not appropriate for our dancers to be in the hallways in leotards and tights!**

When do I have to check in?

Check in *as soon as you arrive* for each rehearsal or show. Please do this yourself, or have a parent check you in. You may not check in for someone else.

What if I am running late for a show or dress rehearsal?

You need to call Chris Casuccio at 703-771-8177.

What if I feel sick on a show day?

If you think you may be sick, you need to call Chris Casuccio at 703-771-8177. If you become sick after arriving for a show, you may be “quarantined” until you feel better. If you have a fever you will probably be sent home. As you decide whether you or your child should stay home, please take into consideration the possible effect of spreading an illness amongst the 200 performers and their families just before the winter holidays.

What is the procedure for opposite cast members (Ex. Cast A at a Cast B show)?

You are expected to arrive at check-in time for **all** rehearsals and performances. This is especially important for those roles that share costumes! You will be released from your opposite casting once it has been confirmed that we have all cast members available for that show/rehearsal. You will be released by a producer or cast manager. This is sometimes a long process, if people are late or haven't checked in, etc. Your patience is much appreciated.

How do I find my child after the performances?

After matinees, most young performers want to get and sign autographs in the offstage area designated for meeting the audience. Before the performance you should pick a special place to rendezvous so you can find each other. After evening shows there is no autograph session and performers will return to the cafeteria.

Do I have to take my dancer to use the restroom before a performance?

Yes. We would like to encourage you to make this a requirement for your child. Cast management will be making announcements regarding the opening and closing of the restrooms. They will also make announcements for younger performers (although it is a good reminder to ALL performers) to use the restroom before getting costumes on, etc. Please have your child at least “try” to use the restrooms before leaving the cafeteria for the stage!

Do I have to stay for curtain call?

Yes. Curtain call is part of your performance.

CONTINUED.... Keep reading for more important tips!

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Do we really have to stay until 10:30 pm for the final stage rehearsals?

This is a tough question because it involves predicting the future. If all goes well, it is possible that rehearsal will end early. There is a greater possibility of early dismissal when everyone arrives early, ready to perform at the scheduled start time. Often the youngest performers are released early and you should listen for announcements. You may ask a Cast Manager (Kim Walton or Pat Pavelko) for dismissal information.

How will I know when I may leave?

Midweek stage/dress rehearsals: listen for announcements specific to your role.

Matinee performances: Cast members should stay in designated areas to sign autographs, however this is not mandatory. **After matinee shows, you must be present and checked in 1-1/2 hours before the start of the evening performance. This means you may not have time to leave on Saturday.**

Evening performances: no autographs. Please clean up your waiting area and take all your possessions with you. Sunday night, 12/20, please stay for the Cast Party.

You must have a ticket to see the show!

Please be mindful that you must have a ticket to see a show. There should be no sneaking in the back doors or running back and forth from the cafeteria to watch your child perform one dance.

Costumes must be turned in prior to cast party!

There should be a parent that is responsible for collecting costumes from each role after our last performance! If you have a problem with your child's costume or have any costume questions, please see Anne Farver or Karen Perhach.

What if it snows?

Although the Loudoun Public Schools may be closed, and therefore the Loudoun School of Ballet is closed, the Loudoun Ballet Company will decide independently whether to cancel rehearsals. We will try to post information in the **Breaking News** section of the LBC website Nutcracker page, on signs on rehearsal or performance site doors (when possible), by email, and/or by telephone. There should also be an announcement on the Company phone's answering machine at (703) 771-1522. Please be patient - we're all volunteers trying to do our best.

One last tip...

Please remember to eat and drink ONLY in the designated areas of the cafeteria – AND, please do not eat/drink with your costume on!! Bring an old button down shirt of dad's – this is good to wear (backwards) to protect costumes from make-up and food. Keep beverages clear, if at all possible!!