

Starbelly School of Dance Student Showcase

It's your first Starbelly School of Dance Student Showcase! How exciting!! The student showcase is such a fun performance opportunity and we're so thrilled you decided to participate! It takes a lot of courage to decide to perform and want to help make it the best possible experience for you. We know it can be a little bit stressful to perform for the first time, especially when there are some details you're not too sure about. We put together this list of information, guidelines, and advice to help make it a little bit less overwhelming.

Information:

- 1) First and foremost, make sure you're reading your emails and responding as necessary and in a timely manner – Cecilia sends out information about the showcase that you'll need to know
- 2) Showcase Time/Location – TBA
- 3) Showcase call time – 45 minutes before the show starts. Please be on time.
- 4) Please invite all your friends and family! It's so fun to get to share all your hard work with them! Also, please ask them to stay for the entire show and not leave after their friend/family member dances – it can be really disheartening for other dancers to watch the audience leave as they're beginning their own dance piece. The show generally lasts for only 75-90 minutes.
- 5) Fees – There is a \$10 donation requested from everyone that attends the showcase (excluding children under 3); \$5 for students dancing. It helps to cover the cost of rent and to raise money for our scholarship programs. There is also a \$15 dress rehearsal fee that is due the night of the rehearsal.
- 6) Costumes – You will receive costumes at the dress rehearsal and all unpaid costume fees are due that night (unless prior arrangements were made with Cecilia). You're required to rehearse in the full costume that you will perform in (this includes the bra you're going to perform in, if applicable). The only exception to this is for dance pieces that you have already previously performed in costume (so you may see some other dancers rehearse their pieces without their costume).
- 7) Dress rehearsal – Dress rehearsal is scheduled for 6-9p on the Thursday or Friday evening before the Student Showcase, unless otherwise notified (make sure you're reading your emails to confirm the details). It is located at the Starbelly studio. Dress rehearsal is mandatory for everyone dancing in the student showcase. We will rehearse every piece being performed in the student showcase that night, although usually not in the same order as it will be in the show. Please be on time.
- 8) Dress rehearsal parking – As always, please make sure that you do not park in front of any overhead doors. There is additional street parking on 37th street.
- 9) Set list (show order) - Cecilia will have the set list available 5 weeks before the showcase and will have the set list printed off and posted in the dressing room/area during the performance.
- 10) Extra rehearsal – If there are pieces from previous sessions you learned and would like to perform in this showcase, there is an extra dance practice the week of the showcase (usually on Thursday evening). There is a \$10 drop-in fee if you would like to attend.
- 11) Don't forget any props you need for your dance piece (canes, veils, etc.)

Guidelines:

- 1) No synthetic fragrances in the dressing room/area – this includes perfumes, deodorants, shampoos, hairsprays, baby powder, nail polish, etc. Some of our dancers are very allergic to fragrances.
- 2) Always wear "dance panties" - Opaque, full-coverage, solid-colored panties worn under costumes at all times; boyshorts are good for this and help to minimize panty-lines. They should match your costumes (e.g. black panties under a black skirt, etc.)
- 3) Stage make-up: Bright red/pink lips, extra eye liner, extra mascara. "Bright" usually means more intense than you may ever imagine yourself wearing, but without it your features won't stand out to the audience
- 4) Always wear a cover up or veil to cover your costume when not performing
- 5) No food in the dressing room
- 6) Smile (always) and have fun!

Advice and Encouragement!

Smile while you are rehearsing your dance pieces. The added nerves of a performance can make it harder to pay attention to details, but if you smile when you practice then you'll smile when you perform; it not only looks better to the audience, it's so much more fun to dance when you're smiling!

If you want to perform with your hair different than you practice in, try it out when you're rehearsing first! Same goes for jewelry – wanting to add a necklace or earrings for the showcase? Try it out first! You can try it at the dress rehearsal, even. You never know if you're going to get your veil caught in your earrings or your necklace is going to smack you in the face during a move if you don't test it out while you're dancing the piece.

Enjoy yourself! Take the time to do your hair and make-up if that's what you want to do. Pamper yourself. Make it an event, if it makes you feel good to do that. This is a great time to celebrate who you are as a person and as a dancer! Embrace it!