

It's Showtime!

Drum roll . . . we are thrilled to announce that we are going to be having LIVE AUDIENCES for shows. When we started this semester, we were not sure what our show season was going to look like. We couldn't be more thrilled to be inviting our community to see performances again. We will be taking the following precautions in an attempt to ease our way back into live shows.

- We will be limiting our shows to 100 people per show.
- We are asking audience members to wear masks when they come to attend the show.
- We will be dismissing our audiences row-by-row and will ask them to exit the building and not gather in the lobby. We will hold the cast until the audience has exited the building. Students will then be released by carpool. By doing this, we will avoid congestion in our lobby and we will have more time to clean and sanitize between shows. We realize that this will be different for our community. We hope to get back to a bustling, crowded, lobby soon, but in the meantime, we are happy to make this change so that we can get back to doing what we do best!

Everything you need to know to survive Tech Week and Shows

Schedule

First survival hack for tech and show week- Be Flexible!! Though we try our best to stick to our schedule, directors may ask kids to come earlier or have them stay later depending on how the show is coming together. It is our number one goal to prepare the kids for their performance. We want them to shine!

Show Pages - Tech and Show Dates: You can find the schedule for your show listed on the show page. Please visit the Spark website, hover your mouse over the LOGIN tab, and scroll down until you see your child's current show, click on the title of your show and it will take you to the show page.

Food and Snacks During Tech Week: Students will need to bring a non-messy lunch/dinner and water. Snacks will be provided (see Sign Up Genius link on your show page to volunteer to bring snacks). If you know your child will benefit from something like extra protein, please send that with them.

Call times: Call time for each show is generally 1-1.5 hours before the show opens, but final call time will be determined as we progress. STAY TUNED! Make sure you are on the show Remind app. Changes will be sent in a message through Remind. The cast will stay in costume between shows that are scheduled back to back and will not be released to greet audience members at this time (due to extra precaution for Covid protocol). Students will take a snack/meal break between shows.

Volunteer Sign Ups

In order for our show to be a success, we need parent volunteers. There are many positions/needs so please take a look at the Sign Up Genius list and sign up in two or more spots if at all possible. The Sign Up Genius link is posted on the show page, and it will be sent via Remind. If you have any questions about a volunteer position, don't be afraid to ask. Volunteering is a great way to get involved. Backstage volunteers get to see a whole other show that goes on backstage;).

Show Grams

One of our most popular fundraisers is show grams, where friends and family can write a personalized message to be delivered with candy to their favorite cast member. Performers love getting these little messages! We will be doing things a little differently this semester. Everyone will have a couple of Show Grams already in their playbill so that you can fill it out while in your seat. Show Grams will be collected after the show in a drop off-bin next to a donation box. **WE WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTING CASH.** We could use your help to spread the word to your friends and family so they can join in the fun.

*If you would like to **donate some “movie theater” style boxes of candy**, please send them with your child to drop off with the person at the front desk. We need your help with this in order to make this fundraiser a success. Please send these candy boxes with your student anytime between now and the last show.

Costumes:

If you missed your costume call during spring break, do not be concerned. We will be pulling kids during rehearsal or adding costume calls prior to the show. Please watch out for information on costume calls sent via remind.

Costume Basics: Worn under Costumes

All students will wear “basics” under their costumes.

What are costume basics? Actors wear “basics” under their costumes so that they can comfortably change in front of other cast members backstage, to complete a look for certain costumes, and even to protect our costumes from getting torn or stained. The costume basics your child is asked to wear will depend on his/her costume. These are listed on the showpage. Please do not assume that you can get away with wearing something different than what is listed. Their costume won't look right or won't match the other cast members.

Students should come to tech and dress rehearsals with basics on underneath their clothes. Please talk to your students, about not walking around in just their basics at the studio, we desire everyone to be appropriately clothed.

Students should come to ALL Tech Rehearsal dates in their basics. One will be our Dress Rehearsal but the other days it's not unusual for them to try things on for the costume department.

Shoes: All students need black jazz shoes. They should already be wearing these shoes to EVERY rehearsal. If you do not have any jazz shoes yet, please plan to purchase them soon to allow your student to wear them for rehearsal so they have a chance to become comfortable in them before the show. Some students will be asked to wear “character” shoes for the show. That information will be listed under the individual character on each show page.

Hair and Makeup

Specific info about hair and makeup will be added to the show page as we get closer to the show. If your child's character has nothing listed, then please have them wear their hair in a style that is away from their face ie: half up or a french braid. Ponytails have a tendency to slip out and look messy.

Ticket Sales

Most tickets are on sale now! We are working to get them all posted ASAP. Tickets are DIGITAL and are sold primarily through our website. www.sparktx.org/2021-season-tickets Encourage your friends and family to purchase tickets ahead of time. Most shows will sell out, especially since we are limiting seats to 100. If a show is not sold out, we will also sell tickets at the door. Tickets are first come first serve general admission. There is not a bad seat in the house!

Our kids have worked so hard and do best when we pack the house. Make sure you are following Spark on instagram and facebook. We will be posting ticketing information and sharing photos and updates from our shows. Please help show your support by sharing our posts and inviting your friends and family to come and see the shows. www.facebook.com/sparktx www.instagram.com/sparkintexas

We know this is a lot of information, but we hope it helps you to know what to expect as we enter into this fun, yet a bit crazy, season of shows at Spark. We love our families and want to make your experience the best it can be.

Communication: If you are not getting information from Spark, please contact us. You should be getting emails and/or texts through Remind. Please reach out with any questions or concerns by email to inspire@sparktx.org. This is the best way to reach us as we have several people monitoring that email. You can also text Spark at 281-516-8382. Please reach out to us at the desk first rather than going to the directors. We are more than happy to help find any and all resolutions to questions that come up.

Video Recordings: We are excited to be recording all of the shows. We will not be live-streaming shows but the digital links will be available for you to share with family and friends within a couple of weeks of the show. You can even have a zoom screening for your relatives and friends that are out of state! We will give you more information on how to do this as we get the links from the videographer.

We appreciate your patience and understanding. We are approaching this show season in a climate of a lot of change and uncertainty. Thank you so much for your support this past year. We couldn't have gotten through without our strong and loyal community!