

New Hampshire ACADEMIE OF DANCE

Where dance is your true north

DRESS REHEARSAL- WHAT TO EXPECT

Why Dress Rehearsal?

Dress Rehearsal is an important part of being in a stage production! Many theater productions have both a dress rehearsal to check costuming and a tech rehearsal to practice blocking and cues. For your convenience, we combine both rehearsals into one!

This is a CLOSED Rehearsal

This rehearsal takes place without an audience. This means parents/caretakers should wait in the dressing room.

This is a full costume rehearsal

You should treat your costuming, hair and makeup exactly as you would on the day of the show. You'll want to be sure nothing comes loose from your dancer such as hairpieces or pieces of the costume, and you'll want to be sure the look is correct for the show. If anything needs to be adjusted, we will let you know so you can make changes for the big day! Also, young dancers often do better the second time once they know what to expect.

You may come dressed in your first costume if you feel it would be easier to dress at home. You may also choose to do just your hair and makeup at home, or do it all at the theater.

Call Times (Arrival Times), Who What & Where

Please be sure to note the arrival times are on our website at www.nhadance.com under [RECITAL CENTRAL](#) and be aware that it is different from the start time. Dancers should be settled and ready to go at start time. We cannot hold the rehearsal for latecomers.

Keep Your Costume Covered

PRO TIPS: We suggest packing water or clear liquid to drink and clean snacks (Goldfish crackers, fruit snacks and the like are good choices. Anything that is greasy, has cheese powder, squishes or stains are not a good idea). Always cover your dancer when they are eating or drinking anything... even water can stain some fabrics. Also cover the costume when applying makeup (imagine dropping your lipstick or mascara on your costume). A large men's dress shirt, bathing suit coverup or bathrobe are all good options for this.

For Parents of Our Younger Dancers

Dress rehearsal will run for about an hour, so we recommend packing a few quiet activities to help keep your dancer entertained. Books, coloring pages, and crayons are great options! We kindly ask that you avoid markers to prevent any accidental costume mishaps. Thanks for helping us keep everything running smoothly!

Dressing Rooms

The main dressing spaces are same gender dressing spaces, meaning that the person dressing the child is the same gender (mother/daughter or father/son, for example). If there is a mixed gender dancer/chaperone pair, we will have an alternative space where the dancer can be privately changed. Main dressing spaces are assigned strategically to help our staff find you when it's your turn.

One adult per dancer, please.

We just don't have space to accommodate more than one adult per dancer. **SIBLINGS** of opposite genders cannot enter the main dressing spaces (little brothers cannot enter the girls dressing space, for example). Gender neutral dressing spaces should be used in these instances. (It's often easiest if other arrangements are made for siblings when possible, but we understand this may not always be possible for rehearsal).

On the day of dress rehearsal....

Please enter through the main lobby entrance of the Stockbridge Theater and take an immediate right to access the backstage dressing areas. You will see a sign that says "Dancers Enter Here".

Enter through the main lobby entrance and be sure to check in with us at the check in desk. We will advise you as to where your dressing/holding space will be.

We run in show order. We will have show lineups on the walls throughout the backstage area, but feel free to print your own from the one we provided via email or on [Recital Central](#).

For young dancers in show #2 and #3, you will be called from your dressing space and your student assistant will line up the dancers. As your class comes up, staff will call for that class to line up. Your student assistant and members of our staff will line the class up and bring them into the backstage area. Parents wait backstage during the rehearsal, the auditorium is closed to spectators during this process. Your dancer will be returned to you at the “Dancer Pickup” sign, which is located by the Stage Left door by the Band Room backstage (opposite from your main dressing space). When your dancer has completed their routines, you are free to leave.

For older dancers in Show #1, Staff will call for the routines and line dancers up along the wall by the stage door. Dancers will exit the stage left door after each of their rehearsals. Older dancers will be allowed to head directly back to their dressing space. Parents wait backstage during the rehearsal, the auditorium is closed to spectators during this process. When they have completed their routines, they are free to leave.

Dancers in both shows.... If you have several routines, change immediately into your next costume so that you are sure to be ready when you're called.

We do have a curtain call at the end of the show, but we do not rehearse it. More on that in “It’s Showtime! What to Expect!” which you will receive following dress rehearsal!

Have a great dress rehearsal, everyone!!