



## Going to the Theater: Everything You Need to Know

### Where to Go:

You will drop off and pick up your child at the stage door of the Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC). This entrance is located on Union Street between Rep John Lewis North and 6th Avenue North. **Due to updated security, only staff members, dancers, and approved chaperones will be allowed inside the stage door.**



### Drop Off/Pick Up:

There will be a Greeter present wearing a bright vest to escort your child from your vehicle to the stage door, and vice versa. Each youth cast role has a specific time to be dropped off at the theater and to be released as listed on the website. **All children must come and go through the TPAC stage door and check in and out with the staff member at the door.** If your child is going home with someone different than yourself, please make sure they have the dashboard pass with them. Dashboard passes should be placed on the passenger side of the dashboard of your vehicle for the greeter to see.

Only performers and chaperones scheduled for each specific performance are allowed in the stage door. Nashville Ballet staff will see children to the stage. Parents will be required to stay in the dressing room.

### Alternatives to Drop off/Pick up Line:

An alternative to the drop off/pick up line is to find parking and walk your child to and from the stage door. We recommend the State Capitol lots or marked street meters, which are FREE during designated times. More information is included in the "Parking" section of this document located below. Guardians should line up along the red railing at the top on street level. The greeter will need to see the dashboard pass or will need to see ID to ensure you are on the approved parent pick up list.

### **Watching the Performance:**

If you are watching the performance, your child may remain backstage until the performance is over. Your child will be supervised in the hallway. Those that are cast in Act I of the ballet (Party and Battle Scene) can be picked up at intermission and join their families in the audience to watch Act II of the ballet. A guardian will need to walk to the stage door during intermission to get their child then can return to the theater. The youth cast member will need a ticket to watch the show as well. **Children performing in Act II (Lambs, Russian Nesting Dolls, Bon Bons, Parthenon, Sugar, and Garden Fairies) will not be able to watch the performance with their families.**

### **Parking:**

We recommend trying for FREE PARKING (based on availability) during these times:

- Park in the state employee parking lots around the Capitol for free Monday-Friday after 5:30 p.m. and all day on the weekends. If you are looking for a spot on a weekday, there is free located between the Museum and the Nashville's Farmers' Market.

If you need additional parking options, [click here for TPAC's suggestions](#). This link includes a map of parking lots near TPAC, as well as information on accessible and valet parking.

### **Attire:**

**Children should come with their hair and makeup done and bring their makeup kit with them for dress rehearsals and performances. Hair and makeup is not needed during staging rehearsals.**

There will be a professional dresser to help with makeup touch-ups in the dressing rooms, along with chaperones, but they will NOT have time to apply all your child's make-up or do their hair.

When coming to and from rehearsals and performances, please make sure your child is wearing a jacket/coat, athletic pants and street shoes over their performance undergarments. Ballet slippers should never be worn outside the building. This protects their feet as well as the floor and stage they perform on. Tracked in dirt and oils makes the floor slick and dangerous to dance on.

### **What to Pack:**

- Your child should arrive with their listed Hair, Makeup and undergarment requirements listed on the website.
- **A FULL bottle of water preferably with a straw.** A straw will provide easy access for dancers to quickly sip their water and to put their face mask back on. Children should not bring any beverage other than water. Avoid sugary or caffeinated drinks.
- Healthy snacks. There is not a refrigerator for us, so please don't send food that will spoil. **Remember this is a NUT-FREE youth cast.** Students will only be allowed to eat in the hallways during dress rehearsals and performances. **Students will not have time to eat during staging**

**rehearsals.** Your child will not be allowed to eat or drink anything other than water while in costume.

- Travel-sized bottle of hand sanitizer. Helps to keep the group healthy!
- Street clothes or proper attire to leave the theater in.
- Books, toys, games and other entertainment. Dancers will have some down time in the dressing rooms. Nashville Ballet is not responsible for lost or stolen items. We recommend labeling everything with first name, last name and phone number.

**Hygiene:**

Please remind your child about the importance of hand washing! It's our best defense against passing germs. Travel-sized bottles of hand sanitizer are excellent additions to your child's dance bag. Dancers will not be permitted to share water bottles, makeup, hairbrushes or any other germ-carrying personal items.

**Additional Reminders:**

- Clearly labeling your dancer's name in any clothing, ballet shoes and dance bags is helpful for keeping track of what goes home with whom.
- The costumes your child will wear on stage are a major asset of Nashville Ballet's organization. We ask that all dancers (professional and youth cast) respect and treat their costumes properly. They should never be altered by anyone other than the costume shop and there is never any eating or drinking in costume.
- **IMPORTANT!** Due to our contracts with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and our copyright licenses, we do not sell videos of our production. During the performance dress rehearsals, our professional photographers will take photos. They make every effort to get as many youth cast member shots as possible. Following the performances, you will be sent a link to those pictures and information on ordering prints if you would like. Youth cast members are encouraged to take their own photos in the dressing rooms. **Please note that backstage photos should not be shared on social media unless it is approved by the Performance and Intensive Manager.** Please email [youthcast@nashvilleballet.com](mailto:youthcast@nashvilleballet.com) to receive approval.