

Rights & Responsibilities of Participants in TDPS Productions

Participation in any production is an honor, which carries responsibilities. Directors, choreographers, actors, dancers, designers, playwrights, and technicians unite for a finite rehearsal and performance period in order to create a theater or dance piece. The success of a production depends on the commitment of all involved. Once a cast, design team, collaborators, and crew have been selected, the absence of any member of that team is detrimental to the project. Such absences are unprofessional and therefore unacceptable.

RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER:

1. The Director/Choreographer will adhere to schedules for auditions, rehearsals, and performances as determined by the Department Production Manager.
2. The Director/Choreographer's primary concern is for the safety of the cast and crew.
3. The Director/Choreographer is responsible for ensuring that students are registered for the appropriate course for the show (if appropriate) and (if appropriate) for submitting final grades before the due date.

GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMERS:

Before you audition, learn all you can about the production:

1. Read the script.
2. Inquire about the Director/Choreographer and find out what s/he has in mind for the production.
3. Rehearsal and performance schedules will be available at auditions. Be informed about the production schedule. Can you make the necessary time commitment? Do you have schedule conflicts?

Unless a student makes a written request of the Director or Choreographer **at the time of the audition**, it is assumed that the student will eagerly accept any role or assignment s/he is offered. Be sure you are clear about your availability and any conditions you are placing upon your audition because:

1. **It is understood that the acceptance of a role in a Department production requires the participation in all scheduled rehearsals, photo-shoots, designer appointments, technical rehearsals, dress rehearsals, performances and strike associated with the production.**
2. Students cast in a production are required to enroll in at least one unit of the corresponding course.
3. A student who declines a role without having made extenuating conditions known at the time of the audition forfeits the opportunity to perform in a Department production for the remainder of the semester and/or subsequent semesters, as determined by the Chair.
4. A student who drops out of a production after having been cast is likewise ineligible for further casting that semester and/or subsequent semesters as determined by the Chair.
5. Director/Choreographer will report violations (per #3 and #4) to the Chair in writing.

GROUNDINGS FOR DISMISSAL:

1. A performer may be dismissed from a production for:
 - Unexcused absence or tardiness from any rehearsal or performance.
 - Inappropriate behavior.
 - Failure to meet appointments with Designers/Directors or other Production staff.
2. The only excused absences from rehearsal or performance are:
 - Serious illness/accident.
 - Death in the family.
 - Natural disasters.

MECHANISM FOR DISMISSAL OF CAST AND CREW:

Any student who has shown cause for dismissal may be dismissed from the show. In some cases, particularly those involving unexcused absence, the student may be dismissed immediately by the relevant supervisor (Director/Choreographer/Production Manager); in other cases, the Dir./Choreog./PM may give one warning (written or verbal), with the understanding that a second offense will result in immediate dismissal. In all cases, the Chair of the Department will be notified immediately of the offense and reserves the right to dismiss a student from a production upon written recommendation from the appropriate supervisor (Dir./Choreog./PM). Students dismissed from a production will receive a failing grade on the relevant course and will not be eligible for casting in a department production for that semester and/or subsequent semester(s) as determined by the Chair.