

Dear Wexford Acting Studio Students & Parents:

We are heading into our exciting showcase week and I wanted to be sure you all knew how things are going to work over the next several days.

**We have classes on Thursday, May 2nd** (Levels One, Two & Three) and **Saturday, May 4th** (Level Three) in which the students will be presenting their numbers to their classmates for extra rehearsal. I have a few more private lessons scheduled at my home and at the studio (you know who you are). **We have a Friday, May 3rd evening rehearsal** for Levels Two & Three from 6-8 at which time we will be reviewing and cleaning ALL the big numbers!

**Everyone is called at 11:00 on Sunday morning, May 5th** at The Kean Theatre on the St. Barnabas Campus in Gibsonia. Parents, please feel free to drop your kids off with us. **The Level Ones are dismissed at 1:00 to go eat**, rest and prepare for your **return to the theatre at 4:30**. Level Twos and Threes, please bring a good lunch to eat at around 3:30 or so, depending how long the rehearsal goes. We will prepare to perform around 4:30 for a **5:00 show**. NO Level Twos or Threes are permitted to leave the building; there just is not time to leave and come back. I am tasked with keeping you all safe and I take that responsibility very seriously.

In rehearsal, we will be sound-checking, and mic-ing soloists etc. and placing you on stage for each of the numbers. We will not be able to sing and play all the solos and individual numbers all the way through. We will introduce you and start the numbers, then move on once we have figured out placement, props and mic levels, etc. **It is very important that everyone stay focused and quiet**; this is our only chance we have in our performance space. We are required to stay in the auditorium unless otherwise directed to go backstage for an entrance or at mealtime. We must NOT wander the halls, as it is a home for residents and this is their living space. If you need to go to the bathroom, a level three student or adult will take you to where you need to go. Level Threes will be helping the adults on Sunday with the younger kids. We plan to enlist you to assist us with keeping them quiet and safe and helping each other with mics and prop placement. You all know the drill by now and can be a mentor to the youngest among us.

**What to wear for the showcase:** Wear clothes you can move well in! Some of you have a costume you plan on wearing or a costume piece which you must bring with you. I prefer to have colorful clothing on stage (as opposed to all black) and nothing with logos, writing or crazy sparkles or distracting patterns. **Shoes:** Dance shoes are always fine but light tennis shoes are also fine as long as they are broken-in and you can dance in them. No bare or stocking feet are permitted on stage.

If you know you need a prop for your scene or song, **you are responsible for bringing it to the theatre** where we will place it backstage. You are also responsible for *taking home* all props

and costumes. You have no idea how many things I routinely have to gather up after a show! If I find things like water bottles, cell phones, costumes, etc. they will remain in my "lost and found" until June. It's a good idea to put your name on things that you are bringing so I know to whom they belong.

**Hair:** Ladies, you need to be sure your hair is off your face and out of your eyes. Pull it back in barrettes, a headband, a ponytail holder or pins. It can be all the way up or half up/half down. We want to see you eyes at all times!

There is no eating or drinking permitted in the auditorium; only in our designated meal area(s).

After the show is over, please gather up all of your things and clean up the areas we used as best you can. It saves me a lot of work after the showcase. :-)

**I am working on getting the showcase videotaped.** If there is enough interest in purchasing a dvd at a very reasonable price, I will enlist my friend, Randy Griffith, to film it for us. Please sign up for a dvd this week, and if there are enough people signed up, I will ask him to do this for us. And on another note, **if you know you ordered a dvd for *Seussical*, I have them now to distribute.**

I have been asked many times if we have classes after the showcase. Indeed, we do, into June! **May tuition is now due.** When you registered, you paid for September and June. **Registration for the next program year, 2019-20 is now open and registration forms can be found online to print or just outside Studio Three.** If you are interested in auditioning for the fall show (which is scheduled on the last weekend in October at Marshall Middle School auditorium) you must be a registered WAS student. **Every student that auditions will be in the show!** There are no cuts and this is the perfect show for all ages. It is a wonderful show which I will be announcing very soon. Auditions are scheduled May 31, June 1, and June 2. For those dancers who are in WDA's Spring Show, the alternative dates to audition will be held the following weekend. We are very excited about our fall show!!!!!! **Please be prepared to sing a short song** (a chorus and a verse is fine) and for our youngest students, you may sing whatever you like, including your ABCs if that makes you feel comfortable. We may have a separate dance audition with cold readings, but that will be announced as we get closer to the audition dates. **Audition Forms and Audition Sign Up Sheets** will be outside of Studio Three very soon, as well. Rehearsals will start after Labor Day when the studio opens for the fall.

I hope you all have invited your whole family, & many friends and neighbors to our Showcase on Sunday! It would be lovely if we had a full house, considering how hard you all have worked.

See you later this week and remember, I couldn't be prouder of my students! Miss Sarah