

Welcome to the ***West Michigan Youth Ballet (WMyB) The Wizard of Oz Spring Ballet season!*** **Please take the time to carefully read this entire agreement as dates and times are outlined thru to the performances.** We want to ensure that participation in the WMYB will be a valuable experience for all our dancers. Success can only be reached when we all work together toward a common goal with a positive attitude.

1) Commitment Period

- Choreography start date: 1/2/24 thru 1/7/24. A schedule and cast list will be emailed by 12/20/23. Not every dancer will be needed each day of the first week. WMYB realizes there may be schedule conflicts throughout the rehearsal season. Please email any conflict to communications@wmyb.org as soon as you can.
- Rehearsals – every Sunday starting 1/7/24 through 4/21/24 with the exception of Sunday, 3/31/24 for spring break.
- Super Sunday will be 4/21/24. This is a longer required rehearsal.
- Dress Rehearsals (at Forest Hills Fine Arts Center) will be as follows: Tech rehearsal: Thursday, 4/25/24; Dress rehearsal Friday 4/26/24. These are mandatory rehearsals for all cast. Times to be announced and emailed to you in advance. Professional photography of the rehearsals will be taken at this time.
- Performances – Forest Hills Fine Arts Center Saturday, 4/27/24 at 1:00 pm & 4:30 pm and Sunday 4/28/24 at 1:00 pm.
- Promotional Events – dancers may be asked to attend and/or perform at various promotional events. If asked, dancers will please make best effort to attend.

2) Rehearsal Attendance

A commitment to attend all rehearsals and promotional events is very important to the success of the performances.

- In the event of illness, please email communications@wmyb.org & board@wmyb.org
- Should your dancer(s) need to miss a rehearsal for other than illness, you must notify by email communications@wmyb.org & board@wmyb.org prior to rehearsal.
- Excessive absences may result in a reduction in your part in the performances including possible recasting or you becoming an understudy at the discretion of the Artistic Director.
- Rehearsals typically are every Sunday between 12:00-5:30 pm. It is possible that additional rehearsal times may be needed and will be scheduled accordingly with as much notice as possible.
- Rehearsal schedules will be emailed to your designated email address(es) with other announcements on a weekly basis. You are responsible for checking these emails and notifying WMYB if you are not receiving them. You may also access all of this information on the WMYB.org website through your participant login.
- At the discretion of the Artistic Director, a dancer or dancers may need private instruction in addition to the weekly rehearsals. These privates occur on Sundays before or after rehearsal time and would be scheduled in advance. The cost of the privates would be \$25 per 1/2-hour payable at the beginning of the private.

3) **Tuition (non-refundable) and Acceptance – Must be received by December 1, 2023.**

- Payments can be mailed to P.O. Box 725, Ada, MI 49301-0725.
- Checks made payable to WMYB. Credit card payments accepted at www.wmyb.org by signing into your member login.
- Need based assistance is available for our dancers. Please contact Nicole Bergsma, WMYB Treasurer at finance@wmyb.org. Applications for assistance will be kept confidential by the Treasurer and President of the WMYB.

Tuition payment amount:

- Female dancers: \$365
- Male dancers: \$50
- There is a \$100 sibling discount for each additional dancer in families with multiple dancers enrolled.

4) **Pre-performance & Performance weekend Volunteer hours/Fees**

Volunteer hours are 20 pre performance and 5 during performance weekend. Fees for unmet pre-performance volunteer hours must be paid by 04/15/24 at \$20 per hour. Fees not received by this date may result in your dancer not performing.

- If you are unable to volunteer for the pre-performance hours, please notify the board and make this payment by the start of choreography 1/2/24 at board@wmyb.org.
- If there is a change in your volunteer abilities during the performance season, please notify board@wmyb.org. If a notification is not received and volunteer hours not completed, you will be invoiced for the payment for unmet volunteer hours.
- If volunteer hours do not meet the 20 required pre-performance hours, you will be invoiced at \$20 per hour of unmet hours.

5) **Conduct and Dress**

Dancers are expected to maintain a positive attitude toward others including other dancers, artistic staff and parents/volunteers, work as a “team player” and mentor younger dancers. Dancers should come prepared for rehearsals in proper dance attire. Girls: black leotards only and pink tights with hair in a neat bun; Boys: black tights or plain bottoms, white t-shirt & ballet shoes. Please refrain from cell phone use during rehearsals.

6) **Home Studio Instruction**

Each dancer is expected to take ballet classes each week at their home studio as outlined below. WMYB reserves the right to recast dancers if home studio technique classes are not being taken by verification of home studio owner/instructor.

- Dancers not performing on pointe (young ladies) and boys ages 8-11 at least one ballet class per week.
- Dancers performing on pointe at least 2 ballet pointe classes per week in addition to ballet technique.
- Young men dancers ages 12 and up at least 2 ballet technique per week.

7) Costuming

Dancers will need to provide their own nude leotard, briefs, shoes, tights, and makeup. For your casting, it may be necessary for you to purchase additional shoes and/or tights specified by the costumer. The costumer will need to take measurements and fit specific items on each dancer.

Dancers will be notified by posting at the rehearsal site or by email when they need to be available for such fittings, and every dancer is expected to be available when requested. If a dancer does not attend the scheduled fitting or notify the WMYB costumer of conflict on the day of the fitting, the dancer may not have an adequate costume to perform in. It will be the parent's responsibility to set up a time convenient for the costumer to fit the dancer.

Failure to follow the above guidelines may result in the re-casting of the dancer's part at the discretion of the WMYB Board.