

Welcome Parents and *Pop Show 2027* Cast!

We are so excited to have your student spend the next 5 weeks with us! This show presents a live in concert experience featuring popular music in multiple genres. Students will gain training in performing a professional quality concert inspired by the live tours and music videos of some of popular music's biggest stars, past and present. This training includes teaching students techniques in becoming engaging vocal soloists, backup vocalists, and backup dancers. Our show will be mounted fairly quickly, with rehearsals meeting on Mondays from 4:00pm-7:00pm for the next 5 weeks.

Rehearsal and practice time outside of group rehearsals is expected.

Communication:

Email is our primary form of communication. Please make sure we have the correct email on file for you and that our emails aren't being sent to your Junk Folder.

Tuition:

Tuition is \$225 including a \$25 non-refundable deposit due upon registration. This deposit will be counted towards tuition. The deposit ensures that all students who enroll are planning on doing the show and not just holding a spot. It is very difficult, once the show is cast and costumed, when students withdraw - please make sure if you have registered you plan to participate!

If a student withdraws after the show has been cast and rehearsals have started, no tuition refund will be offered. This will accommodate for the extra time our team will have to invest in restructuring the show.

****Auditions:** Please read very carefully! (Video Submissions Only)**

Students do not need to audition to be a cast member in *Pop Show 2027*. The director works hard to make sure each student is featured in the performance. However, if students are interested in a vocal solo or being placed in a more advanced dance group they must **submit a video audition.**

Please email your audition video to amanda@performcenterstage.com no later than 10:00pm on Monday, February 22nd.

For the Vocal Audition:

Students should prepare a Pop, Rock, Gospel or Country song approximately 1 minute in length (about a verse and chorus) to sing for the director. **Please do not sing acapella (without music)!** *Students who audition acapella, sing along with an artist or have lyrics in front of them will only be assigned group vocal work.*

Remember, just because you are auditioning via video doesn't mean you shouldn't give your audition your all! The casting team will be making assignments based on the preparation and performance we see in your video audition. Before submitting, please make sure that the track does not overpower your vocalist.

Submissions after February 22nd may not be considered for a solo depending on if the creative team has already cast the show. *If you do not receive confirmation from us that we have received your audition video by February 24th, please give us a call at 615.230.9341!

For the Dance Auditions:

Students will be asked to memorize a group dance sent out a week ahead of time. There will be separate dances for Elementary (ages 7-10) & Middle/High (Ages 11-18). *A tap choreo video may be sent out in addition to the group dance for those interested in a tap audition.

Instead of a live audition, we will only be accepting a filmed audition.

Dance auditions should be filmed from the front and in a space you can move! Participating in the dance audition will help our team place your student within a dance group that will challenge them according to their technical ability. It is important that students audition - regardless of whether they are in a weekly dance class. **Students who choose not to participate in the dance call will be placed in our most beginning dance group.**

Remember, just because you are auditioning via video doesn't mean you shouldn't give your audition your all! The casting team will be making assignments based on the preparation and performance we see in your video audition.

Please let us know during your dance audition if you have any special skills such as tumbling, gymnastics, baton, color guard, juggling, etc. and provide a demonstration in your audition video.

Please submit your audition video by February 22nd. *If you do not receive confirmation from us that we have received your audition video by February 24th, please give us a call at 615.230.9341!

Casting

The cast list will be released on Saturday, February 27th by 11:59pm. We understand that students may have high hopes of achieving a specific role in this show. They are not alone, and competition is steep! Unkind social media posts or emails regarding CenterStage's casting, accusations of favoritism, or slander of another student will call for immediate dismissal from this show without a refund. We will not tolerate this type of behavior.

****Performance Expectations:****

SpringBoard is a variety show program that features students in all of their strengths and also desires to push them. We expect that our students will work hard to learn everything they are cast in, not just the things they think they are good at! We sing, we dance, we act, we perform.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Where: CenterStage Performing Arts Academy
250 Hancock Street Gallatin, TN 37066.

When: Mondays: 4:00pm - 7:00pm (Rehearsals 1-5)
Please arrive by 3:45 PM to get water, use the restroom, and get shoes on.

Saturday, April 10th: 10:00am - 12:00pm (Final Dress)
Please arrive by 9:30 AM in Costume & Makeup. (Please bring a packed lunch.)

- 1st Rehearsal - Monday: 3/1
- No Rehearsal - Spring Break: 3/8
- 2nd Rehearsal - Monday: 3/15
- 3rd Rehearsal - Monday: 3/22
- 4th Rehearsal - Monday: 3/29
- 5th Rehearsal - Monday: 4/5
- Final Dress: Saturday, April 10th (10:00am - 12:00pm)**

What to bring & what to wear to rehearsals:

Please make sure your performer comes ready to move and dance. Students should wear dance or tennis shoes. **No flip flops or crocs.**

Students can also wear dance attire or something they can move around in. **No visible midriffs. No low cut tops. No jeans.**

Please bring a water bottle and multiple light snacks daily.

****Rehearsals are closed; if a parent chooses to wait for their student, the lobby is available.**

Practice Materials:

Rehearsal videos are uploaded weekly to our YouTube channel, CenterStage Performing Arts Academy. Vocal Practice Tracks and Lyrics are uploaded in a Student Access Folder in Google Drive. We have provided these resources for students to practice their dances and songs before the next day's rehearsals.

Vocal Solos:

We will be sending out tracks and lyrics for solos one week prior to the rehearsal in which the student will need to know it. This is to ensure your student has plenty of time to feel confident about their solo! If the student doesn't know their solo on the day of the rehearsal we have listed, they will have one additional week to have it learned. The solo does not need to be perfect, but the student needs to show that they have rehearsed. If the student still doesn't know their solo after the one-week grace period, we reserve the right to give the solo to another student. Additionally, if you are not receiving our emails with this information, please let us know so that we can make sure we have your correct contact information.

Script:

We do not have a script in the traditional sense for our variety shows, because we write the shows ourselves, and make adjustments based on the students that enroll. We instead provide lyric sheets that contain all the pertinent information for each medley. These lyric sheets serve as the script for the show. Students are encouraged to print out the lyric sheets, put them in a 3-ring binder and bring them to each rehearsal.

Absences:

Because of how quickly the show is to be mounted, students are allowed to miss one rehearsal day, with the expectation they will make up their work at home. A student who misses multiple rehearsals or comes to rehearsal unprepared may be asked to sit out of some portions of the show and/or have any solos removed if the circumstance warrants.

Covid 19 Protocol:

- We recommend a heightened sense of awareness at home and ask that parents monitor temperatures and any symptoms before coming to rehearsal. If a student has any concerning symptoms or feels unwell, that student should stay home and rest. In many cases, this proactiveness is the best course of action.
- While a student is recovering, CS directors and staff will do everything they can to make sure students stay learning and do not fall behind in their choreography. This could include Zooming them into rehearsals if directors know ahead of time.
- Just as important as students' health and safety is their privacy. Under privacy laws, CenterStage is prohibited from disclosing personal health details of students or staff. If parents wish to disclose information with friends, that is a personal choice.

Show Weekend Schedule:

Saturday, April 10th - Dress Rehearsal

Call Time: 9:30 am - Students should arrive in costume with hair and makeup already done.

Attendance & Warmups: 9:45am

Run Show: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Lunch Break: 12:00pm - 1:00pm (Please bring a packed lunch)

Saturday, April 10th: FIRST SHOW!

Call time - 1:00 PM

Doors open - 1:30 PM

Show Time - 2:00 PM

Dinner Break: 4:00pm - 5:00pm (Students can stay at CS or go out to eat with family/friends)

Saturday, April 10th: SECOND SHOW!

Call time 5:00 PM

Doors open: 5:30 PM

Show Time: 6:00 PM

Sunday, April 11th: THIRD SHOW!

Call time 1:00 PM - Arrive in costume with hair/makeup done. Please eat lunch before arriving.

Doors open: 1:30 PM

Show Time: 2:00 PM

Dinner Break: 4:00pm - 5:00pm (Student can stay at CS or go out to eat with family/friends)

Sunday, April 11th: FOURTH SHOW!

Call time 5:00 PM

Doors open: 5:30 PM

Show Time: 6:00 PM

***All Middle and High School students are expected to stay after the final show to strike and clean the theatre.**

Costumes:

Each student will create their own costume – a color combination of White, Black, and Bright Neon Colors. Please no logos or word art as these can take the audience out of the world we are trying to create. No visible midriiffs or low cut tops please!

A leotard should be worn under the costume for the ladies, if the costume is a skirt or the top has a tendency to fly up with the nature of the choreography.

Compression shorts and an undershirt should be worn under the costume for the guys.

Shoes can be dance shoes or tennis shoes, but should match the costume.

Hair should be out of the face. Lipstick and some rouge is suggested.

Snack Money:

During the show weekend, we ask students who have been given snack money or an allowance by their parents, to leave this in an envelope with a staff member at the soundboard or front desk. We have had students accidentally leave this money on seats or another student pick it up.

If a student is caught purposefully stealing from another cast member, they will be asked to leave the production and CenterStage permanently. CenterStage has a zero tolerance policy in this matter.

Parent and Volunteer Expectations:

“Front of House” operations during our show weekends rely heavily on our generous parent volunteers who run concessions, take tickets, and much more! We thank you for your contributions and know that your involvement helps strengthen the CenterStage culture. In order to continue providing top-quality performances, we want to help inform our parents on CenterStage’s offstage policies and expectations:

If you are prepping or helping your student on show weekends, please do this as quickly as possible and then find your seats to enjoy the show! At no point in time should anyone other than cast and crew be backstage while a performance is going on. If your student needs something from you, you can give it to a member of the staff and they can deliver it.

The backstage dressing and green room of a theatre is special and holds the same privacy as the locker rooms for a football team or the dugout for baseball – we prepare, deliver notes, and pump up our cast here. Our students are backstage enjoying this special time with their friends, preparing themselves, and getting into the performance mindset to put on an amazing show for their audience. Having people that aren’t cast or crew backstage not only hurts focus and concentration but can also cause students to be late or miss cues. If your student needs you, we will come find you!

If a parent is concerned about anything regarding their student’s ability to perform in their role, they should encourage the student to speak with the director or member of staff. This could include things like choreography, music, blocking, quick changes, etc... We are in our students’ corners and want nothing more than for them to have a wonderful experience and show. Receiving a communication from a parent, no matter the intent, escalates the situation. Oftentimes these concerns are best hashed out between performer and director. If it is a serious health or injury matter, then it is certainly appropriate for parents to reach out to staff. In these instances, please email us. This is the best way to get a hold of us. The team checks their emails several times an hour looking for such issues.

All parents must watch the show from a seat. Aisles and the wall at the back of the house is reserved for staff only. The soundboard often has staff running to communicate changes to staff backstage or performers mid show. When the pathway is not clear, it can inhibit our ability to communicate and negatively affect the production. Stage managers will be asking patrons to find a seat if they are standing.

Brendan Tramel, CenterStage’s Office Manager, ensures that patrons have an easy and positive experience upon entering and exiting the building. She is over our front of house volunteers, which include ticketing and concessions. Brendan is highly regarded in this role by CenterStage leadership, and we ask that you extend her courtesy and trust in this very busy and demanding role.

During our rehearsal process, our students learn a phrase called “Make It Work,” and it means just that. There are many times in live theatre that things don’t go the way we expected them to, and in those moments, we smile, and figure out a way to do things.

We thank all of our volunteers for also having a “Make It Work” mentality, as well!

Behavior Policy:

CenterStage students are expected to conduct themselves professionally, kindly, and with humility towards all CS staff and cast members. CenterStage believes in teamwork and everyone is truly important to the success of a production. In that spirit, our staff goes out of it's way to never show favoritism, casting is always subjective. We expect all students to abide by the expectations stated above without exception. The production team and (ultimately) the director (s) have the final say on all aspects of a production. This includes changing staging, assignment of solos, or the order and content of the show.

When addressing a student's behavior, CenterStage will always have at least two staff members present and hold the conversation behind closed doors or in private. Directors usually give a student two - three opportunities to correct their behavior before bringing in the parent for a meeting. If the behavior is unsafe or of an urgent nature, the directors will act quickly and request a meeting with the parent and student.

Regarding parents, and all other concerned friends and family, we always welcome comments whether it be a "thank you", comment, critique or concern. It is truly our desire to create the best production possible with the most favorable experience for every performer. We understand everybody wants their student to be "the star" front and center. We hope you all realize this is an impossible task from a director's stand point. It is important that all involved understand the mammoth job every production is. Once rehearsals start, all staff are living, eating and breathing the work at hand, normally working very long hours with very little sleep. We use the talent available to perform the show as written, often making changes to choreography, song length, lyrics, etc. to create the best effect for every number in the show.

If your student is part of the CenterStage Family, we assume that you trust our staff to make these judgment decisions without outside influence.

Noting the points above, we respectfully ask that all commentary be submitted in writing after the last performance. We will not have time to read, address and respond to your communication until possibly a week after the production has ended. We continue to "fine tune" the show throughout the performance schedule and often correct your concern as the schedule proceeds.

Unless it is an absolute emergency (the director has final say on what an emergency is) requests for meetings will not be addressed until the week after the run of the show.

***Tickets:**

Tickets go on sale Saturday, March 27th at 1:00 PM at performcenterstage.eventbrite.com.

***Ticket Prices:**

\$12 for adults

\$10 kids aged ten and under

\$10 for seniors 65+

\$10 for active military (thank you for your service)

\$0 kids aged 4 and under (must sit on a lap)

Purchasing tickets online:

- using a computer, you are able to select your assigned seat
- using a cell phone or tablet, you will automatically be assigned the best available seats
- tickets purchased together will be seated together
- tickets will be emailed to you
- you do not need to wait in line to purchase tickets, or enter the theater on show day
- ticket availability is guaranteed
- tickets will have an additional surcharge of around \$2 per ticket

Purchasing tickets at the door (available at CenterStage, 1 hour before the show begins):

- tickets can be purchased with cash or credit card
- you will not be able to select your assigned seat.
- All tickets purchased at the door will automatically be assigned the best available seat
- if you are attending the show with others who purchased tickets ahead of time, you will not be able to sit together
- ticket availability is not guaranteed
- tickets will have an additional surcharge of \$1
- if purchased with credit card there will be a \$0.30-\$0.80 charge added to your order (not per ticket)

If you do not purchase tickets before the show day, we cannot guarantee availability.

If you need assistance purchasing tickets, please stop by the front desk during regular business hours or email info@performcenterstage.com.

All tickets purchased ahead of time, either online or in person will be subject to the surcharge.

Refunds:

No refunds will be issued the day of the show. Please organize payment and attendance with your party ahead of time.

Tickets cannot be transferred from seat to seat or show to show. You will need to request a refund and note the seat you would like to refund.