

Alice in Topsy Turvy Land - Parent Information Guide

Dear Families,

We are excited for this year's upcoming show and we know that you probably have lots of questions about the logistics for the big day. The staff of Modern Motion has created this parent information guide to help you prepare for our show and know what to expect before the show, at dress rehearsal and on the day of the show, Saturday, December 16th. Be sure to use our website too! Our dedicated information page is located online at Modernmotion.org/Alice

Ginger Haithcox
Director, Modern Motion Dance School

Preparing for the show

Costumes

- Dancers have already been measured for their costumes.
- In order to conduct an easy distribution and collection of costume rentals, the staff will bring costumes to the performance and dancers will change into them backstage with the help of our Teachers and volunteers. In most cases, costumes will slip on over the student's leotard and tights, allowing for quick changes.
- At the conclusion of the show, we will collect all costumes backstage.

Practicing at home

- The Parent Portal has the dancer's music uploaded so dancers can practice at home. Most classes even have the teacher doing a voiceover so they know the correct steps to practice.
- Please encourage your dancer to practice at home.
- Once you login to the portal, go to the "More" dropdown menu and click on "Documents & Files" and proceed to the "Class Music" link.

Tickets, Photos, and Videos for the Show

Ticket Price

- Tickets are \$14 in advance, \$18 at the door. Any person over age 2 occupying a seat will need to have a ticket, as it is reserved seating. Infants on a lap do not require tickets.

How to Get Tickets

- Tickets are currently available online at www.modernmotion.org.

What if I lose my ticket?

- Great news! Because our tickets are digital, your original email confirmation includes a link to the tickets that you have purchased. Our ticket scanning software can read smartphones.
- If you are unable to find your ticket confirmation email, we can re-send the email from our system. We always have a seating manifest at the show so that we can identify lost tickets by the purchaser's name and email.

Will there be a photographer?

- Yes, we will have a professional photographer at the performance who will be taking candid pictures throughout the performance. Photo prints can be ordered directly from the photographer.
- For the safety of the dancers, we do not permit flash photography during the shows.

Will there be a DVD for purchase?

- No. A video of the show will be available online in a digital format only. A link and additional information will be sent out after the show.

Stage Rehearsal

What's a Stage Rehearsal?

A stage rehearsal is an opportunity for the performers to get acclimated to the stage layout and feel comfortable with the setting prior to the show. The tech crew also sets props, practices audio and visual elements, and also sets lighting and rigging of equipment. Costumes are not used - performers will wear their normal dance uniform.

Where is it?

Franklin Middle School, 415 Francis St, Somerset, NJ 08873

What date?

Friday, December 15, 2017.

What time?

5:30PM

We will run through the show and release the 5-6 year olds first, at approximately 6:30PM, followed by dismissal of dancers in age order once their scenes, lighting, and audio is set.

What should my dancer wear to the Stage Rehearsal?

Regular class uniforms

What should my dancer bring?

Dance bag with all dance shoes

What if I cannot attend?

Please make every effort to attend the stage rehearsal, as it is very important for dancers to practice on the stage. If you cannot attend due to extenuating circumstances or cannot arrive at 5:30PM, please email Kate at kate@modernmotion.org.

Do I, the parent, have to stay for the Stage Rehearsal?

No, you are not required to stay. If you decide to drop off your dancer, please ensure all relevant phone numbers are updated in the Parent Portal.

One parent per dancer is welcome to stay for the rehearsal. We ask parents that are staying for the rehearsal to please sit in the back of the audience quietly so we can work through the stage rehearsal without interruption. We will have the dancers sitting with their class.

The Day of the Show

Where is it?

Franklin Middle School, 415 Francis St, Somerset, NJ 08873

What date is the Show?

Saturday, December 16, 2017

What time should we arrive for the Show?

Arrive promptly at 2:00PM

For audience members - Doors open at 2:00PM, please let family and friends know to arrive early so that we can seat and scan tickets for everyone in a timely fashion.

What should my dancer wear on the day of the show?

Regular class uniform - leotard and tights. Bring all dance shoes in a bag - please label all shoes by writing the dancer's name on the bottom of the shoes with a marker.

How do we get our costumes?

- Modern Motion staff will bring all costumes to the theater and place them backstage for the dancers. Dancers will receive their rental costumes upon arrival backstage on Saturday, December 16th. The backstage volunteers will help the children into their costumes.

What should my dancer leave with me at check-in?

- Everything else (including coat, clothing over uniforms, street shoes, snacks) should be kept with parents or guardians.

Will the school be open for Saturday classes?

- No, we will not hold regular classes on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

For girls, what about hair and make-up?

- Dancers must arrive on the day of the show with hair and make-up already done.

How do we do hair?

- Hair should be pulled back and secured into a bun with basic elastics, pins, hairnets, and gel or hairspray. For shorter hair that cannot be put in a bun, use a headband or pins to secure hair away from the face. All elastics, pins, and hairnets should be color-matched to hair color.
- Here's how to use hairnets for buns:
 - Starting with damp hair, create a ponytail with a generous amount of gel.
 - Twist hair around and then wrap around the base of the ponytail until you form a bun.
 - Wrap the hair net around the entire bun at least twice.
 - Use straight hair pins (not bobby pins) to secure the bun in place.



Make-up? Why do they need to wear make-up?

The bright theatrical lighting washes out everyone's skin tone and it's hard to see the dancer's faces. Have you ever tried to take a picture and the sun was too bright? You can't really see much.

Make-up is worn for dance performances so that the dancer's facial expressions stand out. Stage make-up should brighten and highlight lips, cheeks and eyes so you can see your dancer. Lipstick should be no darker than 1 or 2 shades darker than the natural lip color.

How do I sign-in my dancer?

- When you walk into Franklin Middle School, there will be a table to your left for dancer sign-in. Please be sure to take your dancer to use the bathroom (to the right when you walk in the building) before signing them in.

What will my dancer do backstage?

- Before each show, we have a dancer check-in so that we can have all performers backstage, change them into their costume, take attendance, run a warm-up exercise, acquaint the children with our backstage volunteers, and keep the changing area secure and closed to the public.
- During the show, children waiting backstage enjoy games, coloring books, and puzzles while waiting their turn to perform. We also provide a closed backstage bathroom area and plenty of bottled water to keep dancers hydrated. Teachers or Teaching Assistants accompany dancers to the stage and may appear on stage to help re-assure the young dancers.

Who is with the dancers backstage?

- Our teachers and trusted and experienced volunteers will be back stage to supervise your dancers.

How do I sign-out my dancer?

- Once the show is complete, we will dismiss dancers in age order from youngest to oldest. Return to the area near the same table where you signed-in your dancer. If a dancer has a sibling, we will be sure to send them out with the younger dancer.

What are the rules of the theater?

- For the security of the children, only dancers and staff are permitted backstage.
- Audience members follow all rules of the theater. This includes all posted signs, printed announcements, and recorded messages.
- No flash photography.
- No videotaping - this includes smartphones and iPads.
- Silence all electronic devices for the duration of the show.
- Dancer dismissal will be by age group at the conclusion of our show. The safety of the children is very important to us. All dancers will be released by a Modern Motion Teacher to their parent, guardian, or designated adult.