

MARQUEE

theatrical productions

INSPIRE
EXCELLENCE
MOTIVATE
LEARNING
BUILD
CONFIDENCE

2023/2024

INTENSIVE PROGRAM STUDENT HANDBOOK

The programs offered within our **INTENSIVE** division are aimed at young artists (ages 10–18) with a true passion for singing, dancing, and acting. These programs expose students to the kind of fast paced training typically found only at the post-secondary level and starts their journey toward becoming a true “triple threat”.

Now entering our 20th year, we are excited to implement this *brand new educational division* that emphasizes process over product, guiding students through techniques that can consistently be applied outside of our program. Students within the **INTENSIVE** division will learn to put aside their fears, believe in themselves, and act (on and off the stage) with passion and integrity. Our goal is to move beyond teaching kids how to sing, act and dance, as we provide the education and mentorship to be authentic, expressive, and confident in the performing arts industry.

Working alongside industry professionals, students who complete a successful audition and receive an invitation into our Intensive programs will work towards; producing a fully staged musical at the end of the full-year (September - May) program, learning the skills needed to audition for the stage, enhance their industry vocabulary, participate in two workshops led by guest teaching artists, and learn the importance of maturity and professionalism through strict policies and discipline.

We don't want to simply train students—we want to nurture artists.

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What is the Student Handbook

The Student Handbook contains important information for Marquee students. **The student and/or parent/guardian is required to read and understand all of the information in this handbook.**

The Marquee staff wants every student to succeed. We hope this information will help them to do just that. This handbook has three purposes:

- (1) to inform the student and their parents/guardians about our educational programs;
- (2) to help keep students on track; and
- (3) to ensure students adhere to our classroom expectations.

Students and parents should turn to it any time they have a question about the program. At first reading this handbook may seem filled with a number of rules and regulations, saying “You can’t do this!” and “Don’t do that!” But, please remember that our intention is to make each student’s time at Marquee EDUCATIONAL, STRUCTURED, REWARDING, and FUN. We provide a safe environment for learning and discovery; helping to create memories and experiences that are simultaneously hard work and fun. This can only be done with well articulated standards and expectations. The policies in this handbook are agreements — agreements between you and your fellow students, you and your teachers, you and your work.

Our Philosophy

We strive to teach and promote positive, valuable life skills in the lives of the children in our community through our musical theatre based educational programs. Our goal is to **inspire excellence, motivate learning, build confidence,** and spark a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Our Commitment to Inclusion & Accessibility

Marquee Theatrical Productions strives to provide an environment that meets the needs of all children. We believe in the interconnection of physical, mental, social and emotional health and work hard to provide an environment that promotes holistic health and wellness.

As part of Marquee’s commitment to accessibility and inclusion, we make intentional choices in our classroom practices to make sure we are a welcoming space for people with special needs, people of any and all ethnicities, economic status, sexual orientations, and gender identities. Our program includes **need-based scholarships**, all-gender restrooms, the use of proper pronouns, and a faculty happy to work with families to meet students’ individual physical, learning, and social needs.

Behaviour Expectations

- Talk in a pleasant and positive manner.
- Foul language, put downs and bullying will not be tolerated.
- Treat all equipment and supplies with proper care and respect.
- Show respect for the teachers, assistants, volunteers and directorial team.
- Running and excessive shouting while indoors is not permitted.
- Physical games are not allowed while on breaks.
- Aggressive or violent behaviour that is threatening to another child, staff or others will not be permitted.

Our teachers work hard to ensure that students understand what behaviour is acceptable and what is not. These expectations are introduced at the beginning of the program, and the culture of respect for everyone and everything is fostered from that point forward. This behaviour policy is not intended to restrict how each student is dealt with, teachers will always use their best judgement to ensure that everyone is having a positive experience in our programs.

Commitment & Class/Performance Expectations

Etiquette: All students must arrive to classes and rehearsals on time, prepared with memorization/review, and ready to work. Classes and rehearsals start promptly at the time listed - it is expected that all students arrive at least 5 - 10 minutes prior to class (but no more than 15 minutes early) to put away personal belongings (including cell phones) and warm up for class. All students must remain focused and alert in class, and notify teachers of anything that may interfere with their ability to work (injury, illness, emotional state, etc...) before class/rehearsal commences. All students must bring their script/class materials, a pencil, and water to every class.

Uniform: Students are required to wear black stretchy pants allowing for easy movement along with the Marquee uniform t-shirt and jacket. This uniform is mandatory for all classes without exception. All students with long hair must wear it up/back securely, so it doesn't cover faces.

Shoes: Students are responsible for their own proper footwear - black jazz shoes and indoor running shoes should be brought to each rehearsal.

Costumes: All major costume pieces will be provided by Marquee Theatrical Productions. Underclothing is not included. Students may be asked to bring in minor items (for example: white dress shirt, black pants, leggings, hosiery, and specific performance footwear.) a list of which will be provided for each production.

Attendance Policy

A strict attendance policy is put in place for our Intensive Musical Theatre programs, your commitment, and dedication to the program is crucial to the success of the production and the growth of the student. Absences affect the class as a whole, not just the individual. Having all students present in class is necessary to maintain a positive and productive process.

We have a **three-strike** policy in place at Marquee. Students **may not** miss more than 3 pre-approved rehearsals per term (with the exception of emergencies). Once a third absence has taken place, an email will be sent home to document that no more absences will be permitted for the remainder of the term. Absences over 3 may result in recasting a student's role or omission from certain parts of the production.

Volunteer Requirement

An important benefit to being a part of our Intensive musical theatre programming (Intermediate & Teen) includes a "reverse table" experience to gain the skills and appreciation for all creative and artistic roles of a production. These roles include but are not limited to: stage management, costuming, prop management, stage crew, sound/lighting, stage make-up and more. All Intensive students must volunteer backstage for Marquee's youth productions (3 - 4 day commitment). A schedule will be provided in advance to all Intensive students at the start of the term based on availability. These hours can be used towards High School volunteer hours.

Additional Training

It is highly suggested that all Intensive students consider private voice lessons, dance lessons, acting lessons and/or vocal coachings due to the fast paced nature of the program. Private lessons and/or coachings are available at an additional fee. If you're unsure which would benefit the student the most, our teachers are happy to provide assistance and suggestions for additional education.

Photo & Video Consent

I authorize the use of photo and video images of my child for school brochures or advertising purposes at the sole discretion of Marquee Theatrical Productions Inc. I understand that a professional video recording of the production will include my child and will be available for purchase. For the protection of copyright choreography and safety/privacy of our students, I am aware that I am not permitted to videotape or photograph my child's class during any performances unless permission is given by the director.

Personal Technology Policy

All smart phones, tablets and laptops must be turned off or put on silent while in the rehearsal room, backstage, and during performances (unless otherwise approved by instructors if informed of an expected or urgent call). Any teacher maintains the right to collect any item of personal technology and hold it until the end of a class should these procedures not be followed. For all students, failure to adhere to the terms and conditions of the policy will result in disciplinary measures and communication to parents.

Loss & Injury

I certify that my participation and attendance in musical theatre activity at Marquee Theatrical Productions Inc (hereon referred to as Marquee), on or off site is voluntary, Marquee and its successors and assigns, its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and representatives (all hereafter collectively referred to as "the Releasees") are not responsible for any injury, loss or damage of any kind sustained by any person while participating in the musical theatre activity. Including injury, loss or damage which might be caused by the negligence of the Releasees.

Payment/Registration

- A non-refundable **\$50 audition fee** is required to secure your audition time. If a candidate is successfully accepted into the program, the \$50 fee will be applied to the tuition fee. If the candidate is not accepted into the program, a credit will be issued to be used toward any other program or lesson at Marquee in our current season.
- Tuition balance is required for our Intensive Musical Theatre programs once a student has completed the audition process and is accepted into the program.
- Each class fee varies (please see registration pages on our website)
- **You may choose to send payment via e-transfer to info@marqueetp.com** (preferred) or by credit card. You will have these options at checkout on our website.
- No refunds will be issued for tuition fees paid once the program has started. This includes any post-dated payments. Students who leave any program for any reason, will forfeit all monies paid to Marquee Theatrical Productions Inc.

Auditions

Schedule

- Auditions are held each spring for spots in the full-year (September - May) Intensive music theatre programs. See our website for audition dates.
- Role placement auditions are held in September in the first two classes of the term. Casting is announced on or before the following class.
- Private audition coachings are available for an additional fee should you wish to prepare for your Intensive audition with one of our musical theatre teachers. You can book an audition coaching package by emailing us at info@marqueetp.com

Audition Requirements

Students who wish to be considered for our Intensive Musical Theatre Programs must prepare:

- 2 contrasting musical theatre songs that show range and character
- A 1-minute contemporary monologue
- All prospective students will be required to participate in a group dance call

Please note:

- Sheet music should be double sided and in a binder for the accompanist.
- Bring a performance resume (if applicable) and headshot. (a recent photo will also suffice).
- If you have no previous experience, please let us know why you would like to be a part of this program.
- Audition material must be fully memorized.
- Please be familiar with the show that has been chosen for the term as well as the show from which your audition material is from.

Audition Tips:

- Please make sure your material is age appropriate both in vocal range and content.
- Practice your material in advance to be as prepared as you can be.
- Perform your material in front of family/friends.
- Wear something comfortable, clean, and professional; pick an outfit that makes you feel confident! We strongly suggest wearing a different outfit for your vocal/acting audition than the dance call.
- Plan to arrive ten minutes before your scheduled audition time in case of traffic or delays. If you can, warm up your voice in the car on the way.
- Your audition starts the minute you enter the building, please remain professional, mature, and respectful as you are waiting to be brought into the room.
- Remember that the audition panel is rooting for you to succeed! Nerves are natural before an audition, but there's no need to be intimidated. Through the audition process, we're hoping to see a little of what makes you special, and what unique qualities you will bring to our program.