

Family Guide for *Giselle*

As of August 5, 2025. Subject to change.

It is a great privilege to be part of Milwaukee Ballet Company productions. Cast members and their parents/guardians are expected to read all information about the production, stay fully informed throughout rehearsals and performances, respect this opportunity, and conduct themselves professionally during this process. Please carefully read through the following information and keep this for reference.

COMMUNICATION

- **Nearly all communication regarding *Giselle* will be done via email and posted online. Bookmark this link! <https://milwaukeeballet.org/student-cast-information>**
- We must have two contact phone numbers for each student dancer.
- The Student Cast contact list will be distributed in early October so you can communicate with your student's alternate cast member in case of an emergency.
- Contact information for School Programs Manager Alyx Johnson can be found on the final page of this packet.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND WHEN TO CALL

Baumgartner Center	414-902-2100	Monday-Friday during rehearsals
Staff Cell Phone	414-334-1114	For use only when students are at the Marcus PAC

VENUES

Baumgartner Center for Dance

128 N Jackson St, Milwaukee, WI 53202

- Location of auditions, costume fittings, studio rehearsals
- Free street parking available
- Loading zone for quick drop off and pickup. No parking here. Do not leave your car unattended.

Marcus Performing Arts Center, Stage Door

Located under the skywalk between parking structure and theatre

127 E. State Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202

- Cast member entrance and exit for stage rehearsals and performances
- Metered street parking or parking structure available
- Only credit card payments or pre-paid passes when entering the parking garage
- Large loading zone for drop offs and pickups, but do not leave your car unattended
- Audience members enter the lobby at 929 N. Water Street

HEALTH & SAFETY

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, there are specific health and safety protocols that must be adhered to per Marcus Performing Arts Center and our dancers' union, the American Guild for Musical Artists (AGMA). Masking and testing requirements may change based on current conditions in our community, and we ask for your patience and cooperation in following these protocols.

- Students are not required to have or submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

- At this time, all students cast in *Giselle* are asked to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and potential exposure to the virus. Students are asked to mask anytime they are experiencing symptoms, are waiting for test results, and/or have been exposed.
- Any testing late implemented and required by Milwaukee Ballet of student cast members is the responsibility of the student cast member and their family.

COVID-19 vaccination status, masking, and COVID-19 testing requirements are subject to change and may be applicable to any and all students cast in *Giselle*.

TICKET INFORMATION

- 20% discount for regular tickets for all shows. **MBSA parent/guardian Promo Code is MBSA2526.**
- Share a 15% discount code to share with your **Friends & Family. This Promo Code is FFMBSA.**
- A 50% off Day-Of-Show Discount to use at Baumgartner Center for Dance Box Office or Marcus Performing Arts Center Box Office (a \$5/ticket fee will apply at MPAC). Reference code **DAYOF50.**
- Please note Milwaukee Ballet Box Office normally charges a \$5/ticket transaction fee. For MBSA parents, Milwaukee Ballet Box Office will waive all handling fees. If you buy tickets through Marcus PAC Box Office or Ticketmaster, additional fees will be applied.
- **Students performing in the show do not need a ticket, unless they will be joining a parent/guardian to watch Act II from the audience.** Please note this production is recommended for audiences age 16+ due to scenes of gun violence. Please plan to pick them up during intermission or purchase a ticket for them to join you in the audience for Act II.

STUDIO REHEARSALS (At the Baumgartner Center for Dance)

- **All rehearsals are required.**
- In case of an emergent absence, please email and notify the School Programs Manager. Contact details are listed at the end of this packet.
- Dress in regular ballet class attire.
- Artistic Staff has the right to replace any cast member due to missed or late arrival to rehearsals.
- When students rehearse with the Company, some last-minute schedule changes may be unavoidable and will be communicated as soon as possible.
- Ballet classes missed for rehearsals do not count toward overall attendance records.
- Submit the letter received in the email with your acceptance packet to your student's academic school, if needed, to support absences from school for rehearsals or performances.

THEATRE REHEARSALS (At the Marcus Performing Arts Center)

- Always come dressed in regular ballet class attire with warm-up clothes to wear over dance attire.
- Always wear performance hair and make-up as you have been instructed to when attending these rehearsals.
- Arrive 45 minutes prior to the start of rehearsals at the Marcus PAC, unless the calendar lists otherwise.

PERFORMANCES

- Always have your regular ballet class attire with you at the theater. Some preparations will take place out of costume, so students need ballet attire to wear.
- See below for details about costumes and make-up. Hair and make-up must be complete before arriving to the theater.

- You must adhere to your committed performance dates and times. You are “on call” for your alternate’s performances.
- Alternate casts are for emergency use only – not for convenience. Do not call your alternate unless you have a critical situation that prevents your student from dancing.
- If non-illness emergency circumstances arise that warrant your student’s absence from a scheduled performance, first contact your alternate and then call 414-334-1114 to inform a staff member.
- In the event that your student has a positive COVID-19 test result, COVID-19 symptoms, or close contact with a positive case, please immediately call 414-334-1114 (available 24/7) to report this.
- “On call” alternate cast members must always be available by phone in case of an emergency for all alternate performances. Cast A & B are alternates for each other.
- Keep your performance supplies with you if you are away from home during an alternate performance.
- **If a cast member is more than 10 minutes late and has not spoken to a Staff Member, an alternate will be called and the scheduled cast member will not dance at that performance, even if they arrive late.**
- Act I is 45 minutes long, every time. Cast members must be picked up on time during intermission. It will take the students a few minutes to change and return to the stage door, but every student must be picked up within 1 hour after the show begins.
- Students only performing in Act I do not wait until the end of the show to leave. See details below as to when your student should be picked up.

For Performances, the time the show begins is listed on the calendar.

Students arrive and depart as follows.

ALL STUDENT CAST MEMBERS MUST CHECK IN WITH MBSA STAFF AT THE STAGE DOOR BEFORE REPORTING TO THE DRESSING ROOMS. IF THE STAFF HAS STEPPED AWAY, PLEASE WAIT FOR THEM TO RETURN.

ROLE	ACT	ARRIVAL TIME	DEPARTURE TIME
Children	Act I	45 minutes before showtime	60 minutes after showtime

COSTUME FITTINGS

- All Student Cast members require at least one costume fitting with the Wardrobe Department at the Baumgartner Center for Dance.
- **Wear regular ballet class attire to fittings. Long hair must be neatly pulled away from face and neck.**
- Students must be accompanied to their fitting by a parent/guardian or other adult that remains present throughout the fitting.

COSTUMES

- Arrive to the theater with hair and make-up done.
- Always wear or have with your regular ballet class attire for both rehearsals and performances.
- Wear a button down or zip shirt to prevent messing up hair and make-up when changing into costumes.
- Bring extra supplies (hair spray, bobby pins, hair net, make-up, etc.)
- Use hair gel, hair spray, or spritzer to slick hair back smoothly, if required.
- No nail polish, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, or rings may be worn on stage.

- No underwear under costumes or leotard and tights.
- All students must wear clear drying deodorant/anti-perspirant with costumes.
- All costume pieces will be provided except those listed in the last column below.
- Any girl students performing a boy role in a wig must provide their own wig cap. These are inexpensive and available online or at beauty supply stores.
- Costumes must only be worn/used as intended. No rolling on the ground or running in costumes.
- Any costume issues should be reported to the wardrobe staff directly and immediately.
- Finally, while this may be a sensitive issue, please know that even when students are on their menstrual cycle, they must still adhere to costume requirements. There are many articles online with creative solutions to this often self-conscious issue that all young dancers face. Please help your student work through this important need. Thank you!

COSTUME SPECIFICS MAY BE UPDATED.

ROLE	HAIR REQUIREMENTS	MAKE-UP REQUIREMENTS	ITEMS PROVIDED BY THE STUDENT
CHILDREN	<p>Girl Roles Hair half-up/half down slicked straight back (no part), no bangs. Natural style/texture. All elastics and pins must match hair color.</p> <p>Boy Roles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Hair: divided into sections with many small pin curls or French braids <u>very flat</u> against the head; own wig cap required • Short hair: natural hair style 	None	Regular ballet class attire to be worn under the costume.

FOOD

- Eat a light balanced meal up to two hours prior to a performance.
- No eating or drinking is allowed in the dressing rooms.
- No eating or drinking is allowed while wearing costumes.
- The vending machines are off limits to student cast members.

CONTACT INFORMATION

All questions regarding *Giselle* Student Cast should be directed to:

Alyx Johnson, School Programs Manager

ajohnson@milwaukeeballet.org | 414-902-2149

In the case of an emergent absence from any studio rehearsal, please contact us as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.
Once again, THANK YOU for your dedication to *Giselle*!
We are looking forward to a great production!