

The logo for the Youth Theatre Carson City (YTCC) Showstoppers. The letters 'YTCC' are large and stylized, with silhouettes of dancers in various poses integrated into the letters. Below 'YTCC' is the word 'SHOWSTOPPERS' in a bold, blocky font with small stars inside the letters. Underneath that, the text 'HANDBOOK 2020-2021' is written in a smaller, red, sans-serif font.

YTCC SHOWSTOPPERS HANDBOOK 2020-2021

The following are the rules and regulations we operate under:

1. **REHEARSALS:** Rehearsals will be held Friday afternoons 4-6pm with occasional additional rehearsals when necessary. We have a very limited amount of time to accomplish an incredible amount of work, so please show up on time, ready to work. This includes coming to rehearsal properly dressed, warmed up, and with all needed materials (i.e. script, shoes, etc.).

Parents, please make sure that your child has adequate transportation to and from our facility, and that your child is picked up on time. Our instructors are required to stay and wait with any child not picked up and are not paid for this time, so please be conscientious and pick your child up on time.

Covid-19: Until our rehearsal spaces are opened up and we feel it is safe to begin rehearsing as a group, our rehearsals will be held digitally over Zoom. Please make sure your child has access to this platform as well as to the rehearsal videos on the Facebook page so they can adequately rehearse and are not behind when we are able to meet in person.

2. **ATTENDANCE:** Rehearsals will begin promptly at the scheduled time, so please be a few minutes early for each rehearsal so that you can be ready to go when we start. If you must be absent or late, please notify the Youth Theatre Carson City staff (see contact information below) *before* the absence or tardy so that we can adjust our plans accordingly. We understand this is a very large commitment and expect that cast members will have to miss from time to time; however, excessive absences and tardies may result in suspension or removal from the group. Each Showstopper is allowed **3 unexcused/non-emergency absences** for the year, so please plan ahead. Excused absences include medical or family emergency, graded school event, or religious observance. Absences for other rehearsals or performances, extra-curricular activities, family vacations, etc. will not be counted as “excused.” Additionally, *any* absence that is not communicated to the YTCC staff with appropriate notice will not be excused. Missing dress rehearsals or those marked as mandatory on your schedule will result in not being allowed to perform in the following performance.

3. **FACEBOOK PARTICIPATION:** As part of the group, you are required to log on to and regularly check the Showstoppers rehearsal page on Facebook. Facebook is our major form of communication for this group and we regularly post announcements, changes, etc., so even if you do not use Facebook socially, you will need an account to access this information. Rehearsal materials and videos will be posted to the facebook page after each rehearsal, and every showstopper is required to do their homework.

4. REHEARSAL CLOTHES/SHOES: All students must “dress out” for every rehearsal in dance pants, sweat-pants or sports shorts, and comfortable T-Shirt (preferably with no logos or writing, as we often take publicity photos during rehearsals), and dance shoes. Hair must be worn pulled back off the face. We are happy to assist in finding proper rehearsal clothing as necessary. Students not properly dressed for rehearsal will not be allowed to rehearse.

5. UNIFORM: You are responsible for the following uniform pieces. If you have trouble obtaining any of these items, contact us as soon as possible and we will do our best to assist you. All Showstoppers receive uniform t-shirts and jackets.

Girls: Tan jazz or character shoes

Black jazz or character shoes

A pair of good blue jeans (no holes or embellishments)

Black camisole, tank, or short-sleeved leotard

A pair of nice-looking full-length black jazz pants or leggings.

Black socks – ankle-length or longer. No skin should show between shoes and pants.

A pair of all-black tennis shoes you can dance in (for outdoor/street performances).

Boys: A pair of nice-looking full-length black jazz pants or slacks that fit at the waist that you can move easily in. (No joggers).

A pair of good blue jeans (no holes or embellishments)

Black socks – ankle-length or longer. No skin should show between shoes and pants.

Black jazz or dress shoes you can dance in.

A pair of all-black tennis shoes you can dance in (for outdoor/street performances).

Hair must be worn off the face and be neat and presentable, and no visible jewelry should be worn when in uniform. Specific styles will be determined per performance. Stage make-up will be required when appropriate. Hair should be a natural color for all performances.

In addition to the standard uniform, you may be asked to provide simple costume pieces as needed.

6. BEHAVIOR: We expect all Youth Theatre Carson City students and their parents to be respectful to themselves, other cast members, the YTCC and WNPAC Staff (including any teenage helpers), parent volunteers and the spaces we work in. We want to maintain a fun, safe environment for you to learn and grow, so please help us to do that. YTCC’s *Showstoppers* represent the most dedicated, enthusiastic, and skilled members of Youth Theatre Carson City, and their behavior must reflect that. This includes behavior outside of YTCC programs. Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated. Any unacceptable behavior will result in suspension or removal from the group.

7. TRANSPORTATION: Because *Showstoppers* is a touring group, members will need to find transportation to and from performances. YTCC will not be providing any transportation with the exception of longer road trips. Any carpooling must be arranged on your own and will be at your own risk.

8. PERFORMANCES: We hope to be scheduled for at least one performance a month for the entire 2020-2021 season, circumstances permitting. These will include several touring shows, as well as many major Youth Theatre Carson City events in which all performers will be participating. If you have any ideas of where you might like to see the *Showstoppers* perform, please don’t hesitate to contact us or give our contact information to a venue. We will try to give at least 2 weeks notice before any scheduled performance; however, this is not always possible. Call times for performances will vary, but generally, we would like the kids to be there, ready to perform one half hour before the time

scheduled to perform. If you must miss a performance, you must give at least two weeks notice (except in the case of emergency). Missing multiple performances may result in removal from the group.

Schedule changes for rehearsals and performances will be announced each week at rehearsal and will be included in frequent updates to the SHOWSTOPPERS Facebook page.

- MUSICAL THEATRE COMPETITIONS OF AMERICA: In 2019 the YTCC Showstoppers became a competitive performance team, winning multiple awards and honors at the Musical Theatre Competitions of America in Southern California. MTCA is a nationally recognized competition where our students get to learn alongside and compete against other performers from all over North America. We will be returning to compete once again this coming February, and all of our performers are encouraged to participate not only in our large group performances, but in solo and duet categories. More information on this will come as we receive it from MTCA. **If you cannot participate in this competition, please do not audition this season.**
- SHOWSTOPPERS SPRING MUSICAL: This year, the Showstoppers will be presenting our Spring Musical, the West Coast premiere of *The Wind in the Willows young@part*, which we will also be presenting a shortened version of for competition in February. The full production will be performed March 26-28, with tech rehearsals the Sunday-Wednesday before. **If you cannot participate in all tech rehearsals and performances of this project, please do not audition this season.**

9. TICKET SALES, FUNDRAISING & PROMOTION: Each member of the group will be required to raise funds toward the program, as well as potential fees for our spring performance trip. This can be accomplished through donations, ad sales, raffle prizes, etc. Each Showstopper will also be required to sell tickets to our Holiday fundraiser and Spring Musical. More information regarding this will be available at a later date.

An important part of being a YTCC Showstopper is being a representative of Youth Theatre Carson City. That means it is one of your duties to help positively promote YTCC and its programs throughout the year (i.e. word of mouth, social media, assisting with poster hangings or other promotional endeavors as needed, assisting with YTCC sponsored programs, etc.) You are the face of the YTCC, and your efforts are a valuable way to let the community know about what Youth Theatre Carson City has to offer.

10. EDUCATION REQUIREMENT: All members of YTCC's Showstoppers Competition Team will be required to be enrolled or involved in some sort of music program (school choir, voice lessons, etc.) and/or dance/movement program (dance class, martial arts, gymnastics, etc.) over the course of the season. This team is only as good as its weakest member, so we encourage all of our cast members to continue working, learning and improving through quality dance, music and theatre training to allow our program to reach its highest potential.

And most important: HAVE FUN! This group is expected to work incredibly hard; however, we try our best to make it the most enjoyable experience possible for all involved. Your positive attitude and enthusiasm will help us make that happen!

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Andie Anderson, Director	andie@youththeatrecarsoncity.com	(775)315-2502
Kelly Anderson, Administrator	kelly@youththeatrecarsoncity.com	(775)315-2501
Briana Valley, Musical Director	bri@youththeatrecarsoncity.com	(775)315-3441