

TECH-SPECTATIONS

Technical rehearsals (also known as ‘the tech’) are a really important, exciting part of our creation process. This is the time where we move the show into the theatre and all the different elements come together for the first time – music, sound, lighting, costume and set – to make our show as amazing as it can possibly be!

Over this week we will work through the entire show and end with a full run through.

LOOKING AFTER OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER

Tech can be tiring, but it is also the most magical part of the rehearsal journey in many ways! Make sure you look after yourself and allow yourself to enjoy it as much as possible by getting lots of rest, eating well, and remembering to be open, generous, brave and patient with yourselves and one another throughout the week.

CHANGING AREAS AND GETTING INTO COSTUME

You will all have an allocated changing area backstage. Changing areas will be divided into section: gender neutral, mens, womens, families and young people. People with access needs will be given extra space. We really welcome conversation about which dressing room space will make you feel the most comfortable.

This changing area is where all your costume changes will happen during the show.

You will each have an allocated chair and a box to keep all your clothes in. Your costumes will be ready for you at the start of each performance for you to get into. There will be limited space within the costume changing area so it's important you keep your clothes in your allocated box and keep the area tidy.

You must wear your correct costumes for every scene during tech. It will be hot working under the stage lights, but please be patient and remember that during the show itself you will not need to be onstage in your costumes for long periods of time.

RADIO MICS

Many of you will be required to wear a type of microphone called a ‘radio mic’ in the tech and performances, to make sure everyone in the audience can hear you! These will be fitted by a member of the Sound team. It is very important that you listen to instructions when you have the mic fitted and crucial that you do not fiddle with the mic or try to take it off yourself. If you find it comes loose or feels uncomfortable, please alert a member of the Sound team or Stage Management team who will be able to help.

IF YOU ARE LATE FOR A TECHNICAL REHEARSAL

We have a very limited amount of time to tech the whole show. For health and safety reasons if you have not been in the technical rehearsal for your scene you may not be able to perform in that scene in the show. Please therefore ensure you arrive on time for every technical rehearsal – we will not be able to wait for you if you are late.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones are not allowed backstage during the technical rehearsals or performance because their frequency will disrupt the radio mics. We will be asking you to give your mobile phones (which we will label) to a dedicated member of the Stage Community team who will lock them in a secure space.

If anyone has any concerns about this, please speak to a member of the Public Acts team.

THE AUDITORIUM (WHERE THE AUDIENCE SIT)

There will be lots of people from the different departments sitting in the auditorium during the tech. The Lighting and Sound teams will have big desks set up with computer screens and equipment which will allow them to programme all the microphones, speakers and lights in the auditorium.

Sometimes you will be asked to sit in the auditorium – please make sure you have a cardigan or a sweatshirt with you as the air conditioning can make it a cooler space.

No food is allowed in the auditorium or backstage areas. You can bring in a bottle of water so long as it has a fixed top – your Public Acts water bottle will be perfect!

TAKING INSTRUCTIONS DURING THE TECH

Our Stage Manager will be coordinating everyone in the company and the team throughout the tech. They will always tell us where we are going from in the scene and when to start and stop, just as they have been doing in rehearsals. Please listen to them very carefully at all times.

You may be asked to repeat some parts of a scene or song several times before the Technical teams are happy that they have got everything in place. Please be patient and remember that they are working to make sure you look and sound as brilliant as you possibly can!

EXTRA STAFF BACKSTAGE

During the show our regular Stage Management team will be helping to coordinate all the props, entrances, exits and everything else. In addition, there will be a new team of additional stage managers and community staff helping manage everyone backstage. There will also be teams of people assisting with costumes, radio mics and the set. There will be a team of chaperones present to support our company's younger members.

KEEPING QUIET BACKSTAGE

It's important to keep focus throughout the tech rehearsals so that everyone has space to do their best work. Please show care and support for your fellow company members and the team by keeping conversations to a minimum. At times we will ask you to be absolutely silent and ask that you respect that request.

CHANGES AND BEING PERFORMANCE READY

There may be some changes that we need to make during the tech rehearsal. Please speak to our Stage Manager, one of our Movement Associates, or the Community Team if you are unsure or unhappy about anything at any point.

The team will be setting sound levels during the tech. It is therefore really important that you deliver all your lines and singing at performance level so that they get the level right.

BREAKS

There will be regular structured breaks during technical rehearsals, including meal and comfort breaks. Please be aware that, for safety reasons, you cannot leave the backstage at any point during a tech session unless accompanied by a member of the Stage Management or the Backstage team.

REMEMBER – EVERYONE IS DOING THEIR BEST!

The Public Acts team will be there to guide you through the process and to answer any questions or concerns you have. Everyone will be very busy looking after you all and keeping everything on track. Please assume that everyone is doing their best and that we will respond to any requests you have as soon as we possibly can.

Thank you, and have a wonderful, memorable tech rehearsal!