

Dear Dancers and Parents,

North Pointe Ballet typically accepts 2 excused absences from regularly scheduled rehearsals within the 12-week rehearsal period leading up to performances.

Recently, we have been getting many questions about our absence policy, as many dance students have competitions and other commitments that would require them to miss more than 2 absences allowed, but are still hoping for an opportunity to perform in Sleeping Beauty.

Artistic staff met regarding this issue and have come to this conclusion:

To maintain integrity of our productions and rehearsal process, we continue to set the expectation at 2 excused absences.

However, we encourage all dancers who are interested in performing to audition anyways and indicate on the audition form ALL ABSENCES in the fields provided, even if it may be more than 2. Since not all roles rehearse every Saturday, it is possible that a dancer's schedule will allow for participation.

Please be aware: Excessive absences will be noted at the time of audition and WILL AFFECT casting. More difficult roles require more rehearsal time. If a dancer is not able to attend enough rehearsals, they will not be considered for the more difficult roles that offer more stage time. There are other roles that require less rehearsal time, and the dancers who have conflicts may still be considered for those roles.

Parents, you have a responsibility to explain this to your child. Children should be fully aware that their commitment level to NPB rehearsals will affect their casting. We, as artistic staff, have an obligation to put forth the best product onstage as well as offer the best experience possible for all who participate. There are many families who have made the difficult choice to turn down other activities in order to participate in NPB, and it's very important to us to maintain the integrity that has been established with our company. It is our expectation that our families support that integrity at home as well.

With all of that in mind, this ballet has MANY different available roles that will be accommodating to several ages and levels.

We hope to see you January 26!

Sincerely,

Janet and Melaina