

Youth Theatre Interactions, Inc.

Parent/Student Contract

YTI's rules and regulations are drawn from the professional world of theatre and dance. Failure to abide by these rules will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program.

Students' Responsibilities

As a performing arts program we hold ourselves to a very high standard for professionalism, discipline, and responsibility. We required that students enrolled in the program hold themselves to the same high standards. The following policies were created to ensure that every student has an enriching, safe, and productive experience at YTI.

- Student may come to YTI only on days and at times of their scheduled classes or rehearsals
- Students must come directly inside the building. Loitering in front of the building will not be permitted.
- Students are welcome to wait in the Lounge before class, between classes, or while waiting to be picked up
- Food is allowed in the Lounge ONLY, except when class is in session there.
- Only water is allowed in classrooms
- Gum and glass bottles are strictly prohibited
- Students are not to bring valuables of any kind to YTI. We cannot be responsible if something is lost or stolen.
- The noise level is to be held to a minimum in hallways, locker rooms, and Lounge at all times
- Students are responsible for proper disposal of garbage in studios and locker rooms
- Students will be responsible for any damage they cause to YTI property
- Foul language, disrespect to staff, aggressive or intimidating behavior or language, and fighting will not be tolerated. **This behavior will result in immediate suspension from the program.**

Class Expectations

Students are expected to carry themselves as professional performers in training. Learning an artistic discipline requires commitment, desire, focus, and the ability to follow directions and exhibit self-control

- YTI employs a professional and highly trained staff to help students reach their full potential. In these persons lies the authority for maintaining the professional atmosphere of their classrooms.
- Students must adhere to the dress code for their class as well as the attendance and punctuality policies.
- Students are expected to be courteous and respectful to each other and staff at all times. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and will result in immediate removal from that class session. Repetition of disruptive or disrespectful behavior may result in dismissal from the program.
- Students will maintain voice levels within the conversational range.
- Students will receive a progress report at the end of each semester that will specify their level of instruction for the following semester. The decision to move a student to the next level is made jointly by the instructor and Executive/Artistic Director through a thorough analysis of the student's ability and potential. **These levels are not debatable.**
- The annual recital is held in June. Students will participate at the discretion of their instructor and the Executive/Artistic Director based on attendance, commitment and behavior. Likewise, a decision to admit a student to a special performance group will be based on the same criteria and on demonstrated ability.
- Students are required to attend rehearsals during "Tech Week", which is the week prior to the annual recital. Students who miss a rehearsal during "Tech Week" will not be allowed to participate in the recital.
- Parents are not permitted to observe classes or enter classrooms without permission. Parents and other interested persons will have the opportunity to observe an entire class session during Open House Week, with prior clearance of the Executive/Artistic Director.

Parents' Responsibilities

Parental involvement is a fundamental component of any successful program and often has the greatest bearing on a child's artistic development

- Parents must transport their children to and from YTI
- Students must be picked up promptly at the end of a class, rehearsal, or performance. Repeated failure to pick up your child in a timely manner may result in dismissal from the program.
- It is very important that parents pay close attention to all notices and emails sent by YTI. Pertinent information will be sent by email, hard copy, and posted on the YTI Callboard
- Parents should ensure that your email address is up to date and add ytiYonkers@aol.com to your address book to prevent emails from going to your Spam folder
- The YTI office must be notified promptly of any change in contact information
- In case of emergency, YTI will call the phone numbers we have listed
- Should an issue arise with an instructor or student, parents must meet directly with the Executive/Artistic Director who will then facilitate a meeting between involved parties

Attendance

Attendance is an essential factor of a performing arts program. This is the only way students can perfect the skills and disciplines being taught.

- Students are expected to be present for all scheduled classes
- Excessive absences will result in students being excluded from any upcoming performances
- **Three (3) consecutive unexcused absences will result in removal from the class roster**
- If a student will be absent, it is their responsibility to call the YTI office. Although parents may call, we encourage students to take this initiative.
- If a student needs to take a hiatus from YTI or to drop a class due to illness, injury, schoolwork, etc, YTI **must** be notified by the parent in writing. Forms are available in the office.

In case of inclement weather, YTI will be closed if Yonkers Public Schools are closed.

YTI will also close if Yonkers Public Schools suspends their after school activities for weather related reasons. If you are unsure, please call the office to see whether or not we are open

Punctuality

Arriving to class on time is necessary to ensure that all students receive adequate and uninterrupted instruction.

- Students are considered to be “on time” if they are dressed and in class at the time their class is scheduled to begin
- Students should arrive for class at least 10 minutes in advance to allow them to sign in, change clothes, and get mentally prepared.
- Students will be allowed a 5 minute grace period before they are marked late.
- After 3 consecutive late arrivals, students will be required to sit out one class period.
- **Any student arriving 15 minutes or more after classes begin will not be allowed to participate.**
- Habitual tardiness will result in students being excluded from any upcoming performances and possible dismissal from the class
- If a student will be late, it is their responsibility to call the YTI office. Although parents may call, we encourage students to take this initiative.

Dress Code

It is imperative that ALL students wear proper attire in order to provide smooth movement without limitations, allow instructors to see form and make necessary corrections, and provide a sense of uniformity and professionalism

	Girls	Boys
Ballet	Black leotard Pink or skin tone tights Ballet slippers	White t-shirt Black tights White socks Ballet slippers
Jazz Lyrical Modern	Black leotard Black tights, jazz pants, or shorts Jazz Shoes or Bare feet	Black leotard or t-shirt Black tights, jazz pants, or shorts Jazz Shoes or Bare feet
Tap	Black leotard Black tights, jazz pants, or shorts Tap shoes	White t-shirt Black tights, jazz pants, or shorts Tap shoes
Hip Hop/ Step	Black leotard or t-shirt Black tights, sweats, or shorts Sneakers	Black leotard or t-shirt Black tights, sweats, or shorts Sneakers
West African Dance	Black leotard Black tights or shorts Lapa Bare feet	Black t-shirt Black sweats or shorts Bare feet
Latin Dance	Black leotard Black tights Character shoes or bare feet	Black t-shirt Black jazz pants Jazz shoes or bare feet

- For all non-dance classes, students must wear comfortable clothing they can move in
- Hair must be pulled away from the face either (ie in a ponytail or bun) for all classes
- No jewelry of any kind will be permitted
- As we are often involved in physical activities, all students should be aware of good grooming and hygiene
- Students will **NOT** be allowed participate in class if they are dressed inappropriately. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Payment

YTI is a grant-funded organization, and as such we offer classes at a highly subsidized rate. YTI classes are subsidized at roughly one-third the rate of an average performing arts program. On time payment is necessary to keep our programs running

- All students are required to pay a non-refundable registration fee
- Tuition is based on the number of classes for which a student is enrolled
- In the case of the Summer Intensives, tuition is the total cost for the summer program
- Checks should be made payable to "YTI" or "Youth Theatre Interactions, Inc."
- There is a \$12.00 service fee for any returned checks
- All participants will be afforded a one week grace period after payment week
- If payment is not received by the end of the grace period, the student will not be allowed to participate in class
- It is up to the discretion of the Executive/Artistic Director if a student with an outstanding balance will be allowed to observe class
- **Tuition will not be prorated for absences or scheduled closings**
- If there is an unscheduled closing, you will receive a class credit, redeemable the current semester or the semester exactly following.
- Students with an outstanding balance at the end of the semester will not be allowed to perform in the recital or register for the upcoming semester until the balance is paid in full

Registration Fee

New Students: \$50

Returning Students (previous semester): \$40

Siblings: \$25