

Reviewed Feb 2025

National Youth Theatre Lead Cast Expectations



NYT Lead Cast & Team Blue Contract

As an **NYT Lead Cast member**, I agree to:

1. Be available for the Intensive Weekend and all lead rehearsals, and to notify attendance@nyt.nz well in advance if there are one or two lead rehearsals I have to miss.
2. Arrive on time and be ready to start at the designated rehearsal time. We have a huge amount to do, and every minute counts. If I'm late, I hold up the rest of my team, and that's not respectful.
3. Be present and focussed at all rehearsals. It's not always easy - especially after a long day at school or work - but it really is important to be focussed right from the start of rehearsal.
4. Be respectful of others - the cast, the NYT staff members and volunteers.
5. Give my focus and energy to those who are rehearsing when I'm not being used.
6. Not be afraid to ask for help - NYT is a team, from our youngest cast member right through. I will help others out, and not be afraid to ask for help if I need it.
7. Engage in discussion with others about our characters and their journey.
8. Share - as much as I can! Share within roles, and with one another. Engage in discussion with others about the characters and their journey. Building my understanding of my character and those around me will make my performance better, and the whole production better.
9. Not be selfish - if one of the other people in my role has missed out on information, or is struggling, I will help them out - it's all about cooperation!
10. Be a role model in my actions and contribute to an environment of trust and inspiration.
11. Have fun! The rehearsal process is great fun, and an awesome Opportunity for me as a reformer. I will focus, work hard and enjoy myself.

Important Rehearsal Notes

You'll know a lot of these from the group rehearsals, but to reiterate:

- If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, always email attendance@nyt.nz and let us know in good time.
- Check the website on a regular basis and always the night before and on the day of a rehearsal as things can change at the last minute.
- Bring a pencil (not a pen) to every rehearsal. Use your pencil! During a rehearsal: If you are directed to move somewhere or stand somewhere, write it down. If you feel a feeling or have a thought related to your character, write it down. If you are having trouble or have a question, write it down.

- We are a team. Don't hesitate to add your ideas and thoughts during the rehearsal process. The NYT staff may say no, but they are there to help you put on a wonderful show. Ideas spark other ideas. Do not be afraid to talk to the staff or to ask a question if you are unsure about something. They will, at all times, push you to go further with your performance. If you are having trouble with what has been asked of you, talk to the staff.
- Rehearsal schedules are published well in advance and **if you are called for a rehearsal you will be expected to have learnt all your lines (acting and singing) before entering the rehearsal room.** At the start of the rehearsal process we allow a couple of weeks to familiarise yourselves with your role, but from there you need to have the lines learnt. The sooner you can get your script down, the better your performance will be. **We expect you to be totally off book by the Intensive Weekend, so start learning your lines!**
- Come to every rehearsal ready to move. Always wear appropriate footwear and clothes you feel comfortable moving around and dancing in.
- When you are rehearsing, try new things, listen to others, respond to them and don't be afraid to be HUGE!

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Role: _____