Actors' Responsibilities:

- Give your best possible performance
- Maintain performance as directed and choreographed
- Make no unauthorized changes in costume, make-up or hairstyle
- Take proper care of all costumes and props
- Be on time for rehearsals and performances
- Observe all rules
- Fully cooperate with Stage Manager and Director
- Notify Director or Stage Manager if you will be late or miss rehearsal before it is scheduled to begin

REMEMBER:
You were chosen over many other actors for this role, so respect yourself and live up to everyone's belief in you.

PUNCTUALITY – You've heard it your whole life. There are moments when a crisis may disrupt your arrival time, so PLAN for those moments by arriving early. Those extra minutes will allow you to warm up, build an ensemble with your fellow cast members, or get you in the right frame of mind for rehearsal. If lateness truly is unavoidable, you must call your Stage Manager and let him/her know your expected arrival time.

NOTES – Always be gracious, even if you disagree. Say “Thank you” after the director or choreographer gives you the note, or “May I speak with you later?” if you don’t understand. The note session is not therapy for your character, but rather a session of quick fixes for MANY elements of the show. Find another time for you and the director to solve issues that affect you and your character only. Do not take notes from friends or family.

GOSSIP – You know it’s wrong. Leave the drama at home. Remember, just because we play dramatic characters onstage does NOT mean we must portray them off.

QUIET – Keep the noise level down when backstage and in rehearsals. Please avoid talking, some theatres and backstage areas have good acoustics and voices can carry. Keep your voice and laughter down. Like the song says, “Hush, hush. Keep it down, now. Voices carry.”

PROPS – Two major rules here—never play with a prop and always check your props before each show. Follow them; The first night you discover the climactic letter in your pocket is missing before your entrance, you’ll understand.

AD LIBS and CHANGES TO THE SCRIPT – As rehearsals and performances wear on you may feel that you understand the character better than the playwright and director. You don’t. So don’t make up lines.

MARKING A PERFORMANCE – The lone audience member paid the same ticket price as the full house that loved your performance last night. You have a responsibility to ALL involved to perform the show as rehearsed and to do your best.

MAINTAINING A PERFORMANCE – You can look at a run of a show as a chore or as the world’s best acting class. You get to ply your craft and test your choices in front of an audience. Stay fresh.

RESPECT

For Staff – They can cast you again

For Crew – They can hurt you

For Directors – They can make your life miserable

For Designers – They can make you look stupid

For Other Actors – They can upstage you

For Yourself – Value your contribution to the show by following the above guidelines and taking care of yourself. Keep healthy and be safe.
The Show Must Go On! I will never miss a performance.
I shall play every performance to the best of my ability, regardless of how small my role or large my personal problems.
I will respect my audience regardless of size or station.
I shall never miss an entrance or cause a curtain to be late by my failure to be ready.
I shall forego all social activities which interfere with rehearsals and will always be on time.
I shall never leave the theatre building or stage area until I have completed my performance.
I shall remember that my aim is to create illusion. Therefore, I will not destroy that illusion by appearing in costume and make-up off stage or outside the theatre.
I will not allow the comments of friends, relative or critics to change any phase of my work without proper authorization. I will not alter lines, business, lights, properties, settings, costumes or any phase of the production without consultation with and permission from the director.
I shall accept the director’s advice in the spirit in which it is given for s/he sees the production as a whole and my role as a portion thereof.
I shall look upon the production as a collective effort demanding my utmost cooperation.
Hence, I will forego the gratification of ego for the demands of the play.
I will be patient and avoid temperamental outbursts, for they create tension and serve no useful purpose.
I shall respect the play and the playwright, remembering that “A work of art is not a work of art until it is finished”.
I shall never blame my co-workers for my own failure.
I will never engage in caustic criticism of another artist’s work from jealousy or an urge to increase my own prestige.
I shall inspire the public to respect me and my craft through graciousness in accepting both praise and constructive criticism.
I will use stage properties and costumes with care, knowing they are tools of my craft and a vital part of the production.
I will observe backstage courtesy and shall comport myself in strict compliance with rules of the theatre in which I work.
I shall never lose my enthusiasm for the theatre because of disappointment or failure for they are the lessons by which I learn.
I shall direct my efforts in such a manner that when I leave the theatre it will stand as a greater institution for my having labored there.