



## **Pennsylvania Youth Theatre 2017 -2018 CODE of CONDUCT AGREEMENT**

**The guidelines in this Code of Conduct are established to insure that everyone has positive, safe and enjoyable learning experiences at PYT. Please make sure you and your student understand all of these rules before you sign the acknowledgment at the end. It is expected that everyone (parents, guardians and students alike) will abide by these rules.**

A positive attitude leads to success. This means doing your best at all times, listening carefully, not interrupting and following the directions of your teacher (and/or adults involved in any production). Disruption in a class, rehearsal or production not only limits learning but also undermines the success of everyone participating.

PYT provides a classroom environment of mutual respect which facilitates effective teaching and learning. Respect for individual differences and alternative viewpoints will be maintained at all times. One's words and use of language should be temperate and within acceptable bounds of civility and decency. Being courteous and attentive to others is essential to learning and succeeding in all the performing arts.

### **ATTENDANCE**

All students are expected to come to class on time, ready to participate and remain for the full class period. If a student must be absent from a class or camp, please notify the office and the message will be passed on to the teacher/s. It is important to call the office as the teachers do not have time to pass this information on to the office. Excessive absences compromise the student's development. Not only do students lose class time to polish skills and the sense of discipline regular attendance engenders, they also lose the opportunity to develop camaraderie with their classmates. Dance and drama depend on a collaborative spirit.

If a student misses more than 3 classes in the 8 weeks prior to a student showcase (PYT Performs!, Senior Cabaret, Evening of Scenes, Dancers in Concert or a Dance Ensemble Performance), they may, at the discretion of the instructor, be eliminated from one or more performance numbers. Practice and discipline are essential to success in any endeavor/medium/art form. Absences put the whole class at risk of poor performance.

### **DRESS & PERSONAL PROPERTY**

A dress code is established to enhance safety of the students and the class experience for all students. Students may be asked by the teacher to sit out during their class if they are not appropriately dressed. Please refer to the "What to Wear" page included with your registration confirmation or on PYT's website. -All pagers, wireless phones, games, players or other electronic devices that generate sound and/or pictures must be turned off and put away during class.

### **FACILITIES**

PYT leases all of the venues and educational spaces it uses. The Banana Factory and the theatre spaces PYT rents are public buildings. The behavior of our students contributes to the degree of safety and enjoyment of all those who use these facilities. These guidelines apply to all facilities, rehearsal studios and hallways at the Banana Factory as well as any performance spaces PYT rents.

It is expected that students will be mindful of the rights and needs of those who work there and of all others who use these facilities. Unruly behavior is never appropriate. Loud conversation should not occur in the halls or waiting area. There is no running in the halls. "Rough-housing" is not allowed.

Food and drink are permitted in the waiting area and hallways, but students are expected to clean up after themselves and to keep the area litter-free. NO FOOD or DRINK (other than water) is allowed in the classroom studios at any time. There is NO SMOKING ANYWHERE in any of the facilities that PYT uses.

Cubbies are available in the waiting area outside of the drama studios. These are not supervised. Please do not bring valuables to PYT as PYT will not be responsible for personal property that is lost, damaged, stolen or destroyed. Please label everything you might leave in the cubbies with your name.

### **SAFETY**

PYT is not responsible for students when they are not in class. If a student has time between classes at PYT, even if they remain at the Banana Factory, it is the parent's responsibility to make sure they are safe.

#### **ARRIVAL and DISSIMISSAL**

Parents should park in the parking lot and walk their child to and from the studios for class. Should Parents choose not to do this, PYT accepts no responsibility or liability for students left unattended. Please note: Additional parking is available in the parking garage at Riverport, the parking lot beside Lehigh Pizza and at meters along 2nd Street. If a

child must wait after class for a ride, they should remain in the classroom studio, in a PYT office or in the PYT waiting area until an adult arrives for them.

In the instance of an unexpected closing such as a power outage or emergency class cancellation, PYT will phone parent/guardians as quickly as possible to prevent an unnecessary trip to PYT. Please make sure the first phone number on record is the one that will most likely to reach you. Students in class at the time of an emergency will remain with their class until they are picked up.

#### **DISCIPLINE**

Learning is encouraged in a positive and supportive atmosphere. If a student is disruptive or acting inappropriately, those in charge will remind the student of PYT's behavioral expectations. If these reminders go unheeded, the student may be asked to sit on the "sidelines" or leave the classroom and wait in one of the offices or in a rehearsal studio until the end of class. If a child needs to be reminded of the rules repeatedly, the teacher will report the problem to the Artistic Director. If the behavior is not corrected, parents will be asked in for a conference.

Any disruptive behavior that reflects poorly on PYT (in or outside of class) may result in a student losing privileges or being asked to leave the program. **Disruptive behavior includes acting in any manner that interferes with the instructional process.** *Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to:*

- Refusal to follow directions or participate
- Bullying of any kind
- Disregard for PYT's facilities or destruction of property
- Inappropriate show of affection
- Excessive talking in class
- Loud conversation, yelling or running in the hallways
- Inappropriate or abusive language
- Excessive competitiveness
- Any form of violence

PYT has a zero tolerance policy for drugs or alcohol. Should any student be found with either, disciplinary action will be taken and the student may be asked to leave the program.

#### **STUDENTS:**

I agree to be ready for classes and performances.  
I agree to walk – not run - in the halls because running is dangerous for myself and others who use the building.  
I agree to use my inside voice so as not to disturb others in the building.  
I agree to focus in class and follow my teacher's directions to the best of my ability.  
I agree to support others in my class by respecting their efforts and being positive.  
I agree to respect others by not interrupting.  
I agree to be patient with others in my class and wait my turn.  
I agree to apply myself to improving my skills in class.  
I agree to have tons of fun.

#### **GUARDIANS:**

I agree to review this Code of Conduct with my child.  
I agree to support my child's involvement at PYT by respecting the commitment to his/her PYT class(es).  
I agree to call the office if my child will be absent.  
I agree to be responsible for my child's transportation to and from PYT classes and recital venue(s).  
I agree to make every effort to have my child on time and ready to participate in class.  
I agree to supply any specific clothing or gear required in his/her class.

**I have read the above Code of Conduct and agree to abide by all of the stated policies.**

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_