

## **Garden City Ballet**

### **QA on Masking During Tech Week and Performances**

**11/22/21**

#### **What was considered in the decision to have dancers perform on stage without masks this year?**

- COVID rates are dropping in our community
- Vaccinations are now available for all 5 years of age and older
- Other Missoula children's activities (sports, band) are allowing children to interact for short periods of time indoors and outdoors without masks
- Cast members are asked to stay home if any signs of COVID-like symptoms are present
- Masks will otherwise be required for everyone in the theatre at all times
- There are no local, county, state or federal mandates currently requiring masks in indoor spaces (masks are currently recommended in indoor public spaces, regardless of vaccination status, by Missoula County Public Health)

#### **Will masks be required when dancers are off stage?**

All cast members will be required to wear masks until they go on stage and will replace masks as they exit from their scene. Masks will be worn in the dressing rooms and other areas of the theatre until exiting the building.

#### **Will others be masked in the theatre?**

Yes, masks will be required for all others in the theatre, this includes the audience, volunteers, staff, parents, etc.

#### **Can parents opt to have their children wear masks on stage?**

Absolutely, we understand this is a personal choice. All families can decide if their dancer will be unmasked on stage. Please contact Michele Antonioli if your preference will be to have your dancer masked. Prior to the performances, we will communicate instructions to volunteers and staff working backstage.

#### **If parents would like to have their dancers in masks, what type should be worn?**

The artistic team has decided on black KN95 masks for uniformity and functionality on stage. Families should purchase (7) black KN95 masks to have a clean mask for each performance.

**Are GCB dancers, staff, and volunteers vaccinated?**

With current state laws in Montana, GCB is not able to ask or require vaccination to participate. Many of those involved are vaccinated but we are unable to accurately account for how many are fully vaccinated.

**How can I ensure my child will be in a mask on stage?**

The staff and volunteers will be coordinating unmasking/masking as dancers enter and exit the stage. Dancers will hang their masks on a line with clothes pins and names to retrieve once they exit the stage. Volunteers will have a list of dancers needing to wear masks on stage and will communicate with the dancers.