DRESSERS INFORMATION SHEET:

1. A Dresser is responsible for ensuring that the costumes worn by the actor look as they were designed by the Costume Designer for every performance. A Dresser will assist the actors with dressing, hair styling and make-up requirements for the show, and with any costume changes which may be required during the show. A Dresser is also responsible for performing daily maintenance and repair as per instructions from the Wardrobe Supervisor and the Head of Wardrobe.

2. Continuity is very important for the actors. If you are considering being a Dresser, you should be prepared to work the entire run of the show, from first dress rehearsal to closing.

3. A Dresser is responsible to the Wardrobe Supervisor of the show. The Wardrobe Supervisor will determine what tasks need to be done and will direct the Dressers to perform the necessary work. Any difficulties in running the show should be brought to the attention of the Wardrobe Supervisor as soon as they become apparent. The Wardrobe Supervisor will in turn notify the Head of Wardrobe or the Stage Manager as appropriate.

4. A Dresser should wear blacks (neat, dark, unpatterned, long sleeved, non-reflective clothing) and black soft-soled shoes while she/he is back stage, from the time of the first dress rehearsal. Be sure your shoes and clothes are comfortable. If you do not have the appropriate blacks, see the Head of Wardrobe.

5. A Dresser’s daily routine includes:

   - Checking the call board in the Costume Shop daily for your call. It is your responsibility to know when you are expected to be and where. Be on time, signing in on the Theatre call board at every dress rehearsal and performance. If any unforeseen difficulties cause a delay in your arrival for your call, phone the Wardrobe Supervisor at 250-721-8004, or Stage Management in the Production Office at 250-721-8009.

   - Being familiar with the costumes so that you know how they are to be worn.

   - Performing daily maintenance (laundry, pressing and repairs) as scheduled in time to return everything to its place in the dressing rooms by the daily deadline. Double check the set up to ensure that everything on the Dresser Check List is in its proper place.
• Presetting the costumes needed for quick changes. The preset should be completed before the stage is open for the actors' warm-up. During the show, assist the actors with the quick changes and return costumes to the dressing room when they are no longer needed.

• Checking that all items are back in place after each performance.

6. A Dresser is responsible for checking the appearance of each actor before she/he makes each entrance. It is the Dresser’s job to ensure that the costume is being worn correctly, that all accessories which are part of the costume are being worn, that all inappropriate accessories such as earrings and watches have been removed, that there no hanging threads or lint or dirt marks on the costume etc..

7. During the performance, a Dresser should remain in her/his designated area so that she/he is available to handle any difficulties that may arise. Always have safety pins with you, and be familiar with the location of repair equipment and replacement stock items that may be needed in an emergency.

8. A Dresser should remain out of the public areas of the Theatre while the audience is present, and take special care in closing doors quietly during a performance.

9. The backstage area is off limits to anyone except crew and actors during performances. It is the responsibility of the entire crew to enforce this rule.

10. At the end of the run, the Dresser will assist with the Costume Strike. This involves the usual maintenance, dry cleaning as needed, as well as the returning of costumes to stock when cleaning is complete and anything else necessary to get the dressing rooms and the costume shop in shape for the next show.

11. **REMEMBER** the Dressing Rooms are costume areas - please do not eat, drink or smoke in these rooms! It is the responsibility of the Wardrobe Supervisor and the Dressers to enforce this rule.

**HAVE FUN WITH THE SHOW!**

Karla D. Stout, Head of Wardrobe
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