



## **TIMELINE**

### ***Preparing for Performances***

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**A month before:** Now is the time to make choreography a priority. During practices, spend time teaching the routine for your upcoming performance. This includes formations, transitions, levels, etc. You want to make sure your dancers have ample time to work on polishing the routine, so aim to have a finished product a few weeks prior to your performance.

**A week before:** If you have not done so already, now is the time to begin cleaning the routine. Take each section slowly and break down the choreography. If there are technical elements, be sure to drill them in smaller groups so you can pay attention to each dancer individually. Run the routine as a whole a few times each practice so that each dancer is comfortable executing the choreography.

**The week of:** By this time, you want your routine to be second nature to your dancers! Devote time at practice to running the routine with music as much as possible to build stamina and to ultimately make it look effortless. Don't forget to continue cleaning and be sure to work on formations and transitions. This is also when you will want to have your first rehearsal in costume. This gives you ample time to fix any costume issues that may arise.

**The day before:** Spend time rehearsing the entrances and exits for the performance. Whether it be cheering on or walking in unison to your opening formation, you want to make sure your dancers are comfortable getting to their spot. Additionally, don't forget to practice holding the opening pose as they wait for the music to begin. Run the routine multiple times, but don't stress; everyone has been working hard for performance day tomorrow! Remember to give your dancers all of the details for the day of the performance such as: where to go, when to arrive, whether or not to arrive in costume with hair and make-up finished, approximate performance time, etc.

**The day of:** Now is the time to relax. You and your dancers have spent many weeks working towards this day, so breathe and let your hard work show. Be sure to encourage your dancers to eat a good meal and drink fluids prior to their performance and make sure everyone stretches even more than usual. Encourage your dancers to do their best, and no matter what happens on the performance floor, try to end the day on a positive note!