

# ROMEO & JULIET

2024



**FORT WAYNE BALLET**

## Attending a Ballet Performance

### Going to the theater for ballet is similar to going to a movie:

- The lights will dim before the performance begins, and the theater is dark during the ballet.
- Audience members are expected to sit still and quietly in their seats.
- Photography and video recording are strictly prohibited. In addition to being distracting to the dancers and other audience members, *Romeo & Juliet* is copyrighted artistic material.



- Cell phones and electronics should be turned off when you enter the theater.
- There is no intermission. Please use the restroom prior to the performance.

### However, unlike the movies:



- There is no talking in ballet. The story is told through movements, music, costumes, and sets.
- Ballet is performed live. There are no second takes and dancers can react to the audience!
- Clap when you enjoy something, laugh if something is funny, and give a standing ovation at the end if it was amazing. Let the dancers know you appreciate their hard work!
- At the end of the performance, the dancers and musicians take a bow. This is a *curtain call*.

- Some people make their visit to the ballet a dress-up occasion; others dress casually. Wear something you are comfortable in so you can enjoy the performance.

### Most Importantly:

- Enjoy the movements, music, sets, costumes—and HAVE FUN!



## In-Theater School Show Field Trip Facts

### Where are we going?

The performance is at the Arts United Center (AUC), 303 E. Main St., in downtown Fort Wayne.



### What time should we arrive? What time will we leave?

If you are participating in the Docent Program, you will need to arrive no later than 9:30am. Doors open at 9:15am. Volunteer ushers will show you to your seats in the auditorium. This is where the docent presentation will take place. The performance will end around 11:00am.

### What do we do when we arrive?

Upon entering the front doors of the AUC, Tracy Tritz will be there to welcome you. From there, a volunteer usher will lead you to your seats. It is important that you stay in your assigned seats.

### What should we bring?

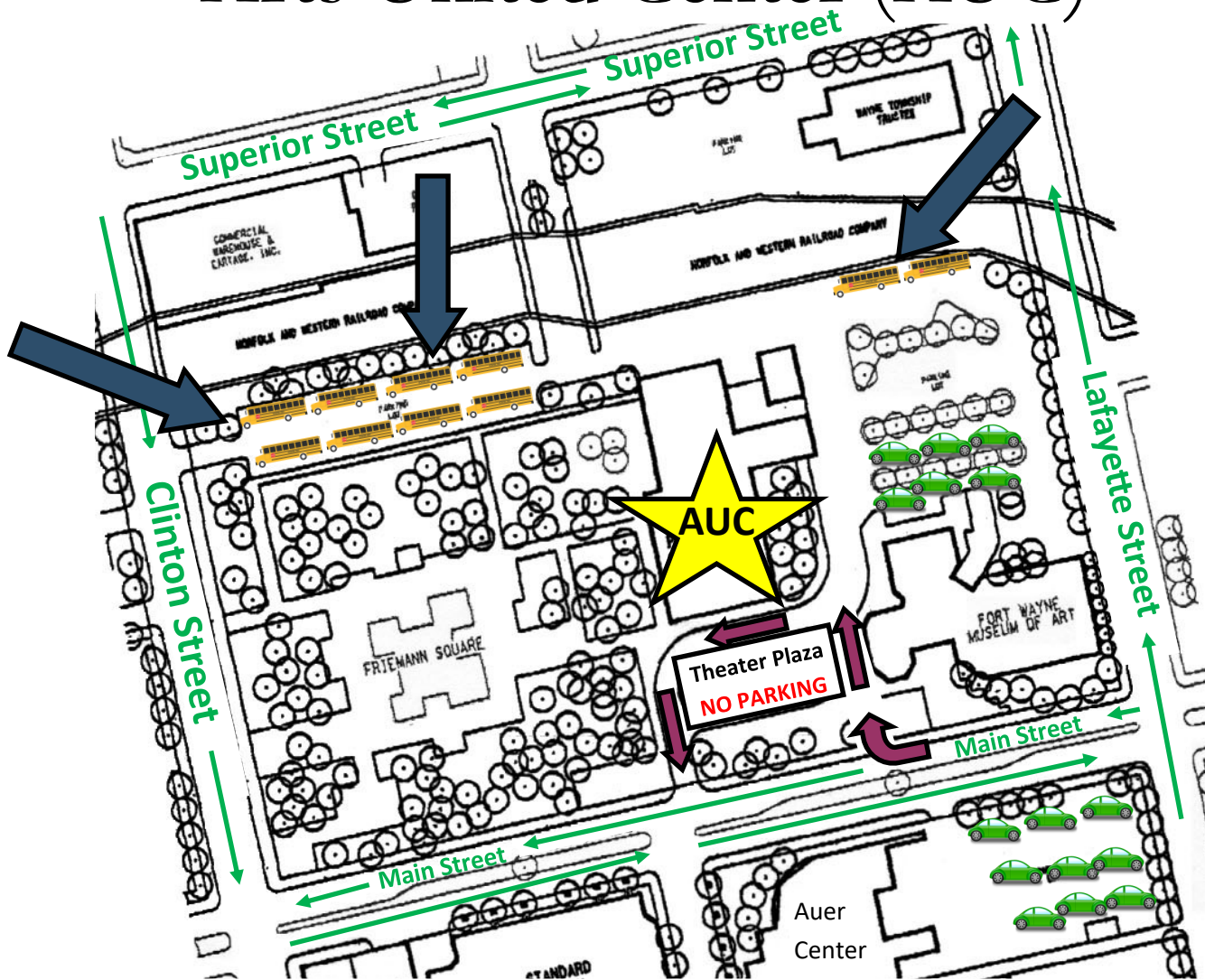
Bring your wonderful self. Coats, cameras, book-bags, and water bottles should remain on the bus so they won't be left behind in the AUC.



### Questions about the trip?

Contact Tracy Tritz  
at [ttritz@fortwayneballet.org](mailto:ttritz@fortwayneballet.org)

# Arts United Center (AUC)



The Arts United Center (AUC) is located at 303 E. Main Street. There are entrances off Main Street, Clinton Street, and Superior Street.

## **Buses:**

- For drop-off, please enter by taking a RIGHT off of Main Street.
- Please pull up as far as you can to accommodate other buses behind you.
- Exit onto Main Street. NO PARKING in front of the AUC/on the plaza. This is against fire code. We must keep that open as a fire lane.
- Bus Parking is available behind Friemann Square. There is also room for about two buses in the AUC parking lot, along the back curb. \*See map above.

## **Cars and Home School Families:**

- Parking is limited. You may also try the Auer Center parking lot across the street.
- Metered street parking is available in surrounding areas.
- There is a parking garage located on the corner of Barr and Main Street. (Sai Saki building)



**Verona has two feuding families—the House of Capulet and the House of Montague. They are competitors in business as well as social status.**

### Characters

**Juliet:** A 13-year old girl, she is the only daughter of the House of Capulet. She falls in love with Romeo, a member of the House of Montague.

**Romeo:** The son of Lord Montague and his wife, Lady Montague, he secretly loves and marries Juliet, a member of the rival House of Capulet.

**Mercutio:** He is a close friend to Romeo and blood relative to Prince Escalus and Count Paris. As such, Mercutio has the ability to mingle around those of both houses.

**Tybalt:** He is the son of Lady Capulet's brother, Juliet's short-tempered first cousin, and Romeo's rival.

**Nursemaid:** She is the personal servant, guardian of Juliet, and has been since Juliet was born.

**Paris:** He is a suitor of Juliet. He is handsome, wealthy, and a kinsman to Prince Escalus.

**Friar Lawrence:** A friar who plays the part of wise adviser to Romeo and Juliet, along with aiding their plans to be together.

**Additional Characters:** Lord and Lady Montague, Benvolio, Lord and Lady Capulet, Prince Escalus, Guests of the Capulet Ball, Juliet's Bridesmaids, Villagers, Gypsies



### ACT I

Scene 1: Early morning on a street in Verona. Romeo passes by, pensive, and ignores the maidens seeking his attentions. The mood is tense. Servants of the rival Capulet and Montague families begin to fight. The alarm sounds as the violence escalates into a brawl. It is quelled when the Prince of Verona threatens death to those involve in future disturbances.

Scene 2: Servants prepare for a ball at the House of the Capulets. Juliet, just fourteen years old, enters with her nursemaid, who struggles to get her into her gown. The guests arrive, among them the uninvited Romeo, Benvolio, and Mercutio in masks. During a ponderous dance for the knights, Juliet dances with Paris, her intended suitor; she treats him politely and indifferently. Romeo catches sight of her and falls instantly in love, forgetting his unrequited relationship with Rosalind. His closest friend Mercutio enlivens the gathering with a buffoonish dance, after which Romeo and Juliet perform a madrigal. Juliet disentangles herself around Romeo and playfully dashes from the room. Tybalt, meantime, recognizes Romeo as a member of the rival Montagues. Tempers flare. The Capulets escort Tybalt out the door as the guests disperse. Juliet returns to the empty, half-darkened hall, looking for a kerchief that she dropped during her encounter with Romeo.



### ACT II

Scene 1: The public square fills with revelers celebrating the carnival season. Cheerful and animated, Romeo strolls through, preoccupied with thoughts of Juliet. Mercutio teases him while a street dance and procession begin. The nursemaid seeks out Romeo at Juliet's behest and, after exchanging humorous bows with Mercutio, gives Romeo a letter from Juliet; the couple is secretly betrothed. Euphoric, Romeo dashes out amid the continuing festivities.

Scene 2: Friar Laurence performs the wedding ceremony in his chamber.

Scene 3: Mercutio and Benvolio enter with their companions. The surrounding street dance suddenly halts when Tybalt bumps up against Mercutio. The two stare at each other like bulls. Romeo, fresh from Friar Laurence's, tries in vain to restore calm. When Mercutio impulsively confronts Tybalt, a duel ensues, ending in the hapless Mercutio's death. Romeo resolves to exact revenge and battles fiercely with Tybalt until the latter is slain. Recalling the Prince of Verona's edict, Benvolio wraps Romeo in a cloak and urges him to flee.



### ACT III

Scene 1: Romeo, about to escape Verona for Mantua, bids farewell to Juliet in the predawn haze of her bedchamber. Upon his departure, the nurse-maid warns Juliet that her parents have come to see her with Paris, her presumed suitor. Juliet weeps, then grows hysteric as her father orders her to marry.

Scene 2: Juliet turns for help to Friar Laurence, who suggests she feign her death with a sleeping potion. Once everyone believes her dead, Romeo can spirit her away to Mantua where the two may live in peace.

Scene 3: Juliet disingenuously informs her parents she will marry Paris the next day. With wedding preparations underway, she takes the potion and falls into a deep sleep in her bedchamber. On the morning of her wedding, Juliet's bridesmaids appear with the intent to help Juliet prepare for the festivities. When she does not awaken, they conclude that she has died.

Scene 4: Romeo, believing Juliet dead, comes out of exile to mourn at her grave. He finds Paris at the crypt; they fight, and Romeo kills Paris. In despair, Romeo lies down next to Juliet and ends his own life with a deadly poison. At last, Juliet awakens but only to find her lover dead. Using his dagger, she takes her own life to be with Romeo forever.

\*During the in-theater school shows, you will only see Act I of the ballet.





## Fun things to try....

**Listen and identify.** Listen to a recording of Sergei Prokofiev's *Romeo & Juliet* (or use music from different cultures) and try to identify the instruments and their families. Next try to visually identify the instruments you heard either by print source, online or instruments you have in the classroom. Have teams and compete. The team that identifies the most instruments correctly wins!

**Emerge yourself in culture.** *Romeo and Juliet* takes place in Verona, Italy—can you locate the city on the map? It is one of the main tourist destinations in Northern Italy because of its artistic heritage and several annual fairs and shows as well as the opera season in the Arena, an ancient Roman amphitheater that seats 25,000 spectators. What other historical buildings are in Verona? Juliet's house—is it real?

**Create another story.** Create another "*Romeo & Juliet*" story that changes the outcome of the ballet.

**Understanding relationships between art forms.** After viewing Fort Wayne Ballet's *Romeo & Juliet*, compare the dancers to the music and the story. Did the dancers convey the story through their movements? Did the music tell the story? How did the dancing and the music help tell the story?

**Listen to Prokofiev's *Romeo & Juliet*.** Sergei Prokofiev's *Romeo & Juliet* has wonderful, exciting music! Using a section of the music, identify the mood. Now explore how you can create this mood in movement. How does this music and movement make you feel?

**Choreograph a short dance:** Pretend you are the choreographer and create a movement phrase that can go along with the song or music that you or your friends have just created. Try teaching this dance to one or more of your friends. Combine your movement phrase with a friend's movement phrase; create a transition phrase to allow a smooth flow from your phrase to theirs. Write about your participation in this activity and describe how it made you feel.

**Athletes.** Dancers are very athletic, strong and flexible. What athletes would benefit from ballet training? Who else would benefit? Name other benefits from dance training.

Please write the dancers a note and tell them what you liked best about the performance *Romeo & Juliet*.

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Share your favorite moments with us!  
Send your responses to Fort Wayne Ballet  
300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Draw a picture of your favorite part from the performance  
*Romeo & Juliet.*

Share your favorite moments with us!  
Send your responses to Fort Wayne Ballet  
Attn: Tracy Tritz  
300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802

# Fine Arts Curriculum Alignment

**Docent content:** This docent curriculum was designed to explore *Romeo & Juliet* as presented by the Fort Wayne Ballet and the question and answer session after the In-theater performance. It aligns with Indiana's Academic Standards for Music (2010) and Dance (2010) at the grade three level.

Indiana's Academic Standards for Music 4, 6, 8, 9

Indiana's Academic Standards for Dance 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8

**Worksheets:** These worksheets are designed as activities for students that relate to *Romeo & Juliet* and align with Indiana's Academic Standards for Music and Dance.

**Fun things to try.** An activities list for students that aligns with:

Indiana's Academic Standards for Music:

Standard 6 - 3.6.4

Standard 9 – 3.9.2

Indiana Academic Standards for Dance:

Standard 5 – 3.5.2,

Indiana Academic Standards for Music:

Standard 4 – 3.4.1, 3.4.4,

Standard 8 – 3.8.2, 3.8.4

Indiana Academic Standards for Dance:

Standard 1 – 3.1.2, 3.1.4,

Standard 2 – 3.2.1, Standard 3 – 3.3.2, Standard 4 – 3.4.1

**Draw your favorite moment in the ballet *Romeo & Juliet*.**

Indiana's Academic Standards for Dance: Standard 4 – 3.4.2

**Please write the dancers.**

Indiana's Academic Standards for Dance: Standard 4 – 3.4.2