

# Anastasia

## Rehearsal Report

**Date:** 7/21/2025

**Start Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**End Time:** 9:30 p.m.

**Location:** Indianola High School Auditorium

**Director:** Bridget [REDACTED]

**SM:** Mike [REDACTED]

**Attendance:** [REDACTED]

**Late:**

**Absent:**

**Rehearsal Schedule:**

**Mic Checks:** 5:33-6:10

**Act 1:** 7:00-8:05 pm

**Intermission:** 8:06-8:21

**Act II:** 8:21-9:15

(Full run was 2 hours 16 minutes)

**Next Rehearsal:**

This week, we are working in show conditions and will be doing as many full runs of the show as we can. Tomorrow, please make sure to prioritise mic checks at the beginning of your pre-show tasks.

**General Notes:** Spreadsheets should get sent out sometime this weekend! [REDACTED] and I will discuss what we have :)

Need to reach out to [REDACTED] to see if the Show Choir risers will be on stage next week.

**EVERYONE:** We will be loading in all of our set/props/etc the weekend of 6/28-29! It is not required but we would GREATLY appreciate help from anyone who can lend some hands! Meet at IHS at 10:00 am :)

Does anybody know what the high school wifi password is? We would love to be able to connect if possible.

We would like to keep the tape on the floor of the stage! We added some spikes to mark the dance circle.

No Rehearsal tomorrow! Enjoy your holiday weekend! :)

We will be adding intimacy for sure on Monday, the 21st, but if you want to start working on it early, make sure to let us know.

This is in RED because it is SUPER IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE: As show week approaches and the stress rises, please make sure you are being kind to yourself. Eat, sleep, drink water, make sure there is time for you. You are all working so hard and doing fantastic work, just please make sure you are being kind to yourself in the process :)

We are planning for Q2Q to be on Sunday, July 20th, from 1-5 pm with a group social after (dinner or ice cream or something)

Please Please Please NO FOOD OR DRINK in costume.

We do want to time Learn To Do It at some point in the future :)

We are all going to work together to figure out a pre-show process as far as figuring out how long it takes to test mics, do a fight call, and figure out what all to put into the dance called.

Learn To Do It is 5 minutes and 4 seconds.

Can we get mirrors for the quick change stations? (A few mentioned having some handhelds and mentioned bringing in a full size, we just want the actors to be able to see themselves.)

**Notes Key:** Previous Note, Current Note, Urgent Note

**Director:** We'll have to find another day to go through My Petersburg since we didn't quite get there tonight. There was empty space in the prologue (during the attack on the palace) and after the drunks' fight (more music than actions) Didn't quite get through the scene in the hotel (Scene 10) so we will need to go back through it. We will block We'll Go From There once we are in the space with the train.

During Last Dance of the Romanovs there is more music space to fill, may work with slowing things down/adding things.

We will have to look at Press Conference camera clicks at the end.

We'll need to block the last few pages of the show soon.

We'll need to go back and clean Learn to Do it later in the cleaning process.

We'll have to block bows with the music.

Shawn asked if we liked the Neva Club lights staying for the Garden scene.

We'll have to take a look at the Neva Flows blocking to find Allison's motivation to sit.

Also mentioned wanting to look at the timing of the Leopold joke at the end of the press conference.

**Actors:** Soldiers: remember your sharp posture (when you have posture and when you relax)

Here are some name choices for Ensemble (drunks, merchants, Neva Club goers, etc.): Boris, Ivan, Yuri, Anton, Misha, Viktor, Polina, Olga, Natalia, Eva, Dasha, Motya, Vera


As we iron out the music, we are finding more spots where the music is queued by your breath/first word of the next verse, so do not be afraid to keep singing as you would, Shelby will base cues off of you!

The breakdown for the beginning dance of Once Upon A December is: 6 measures to enter, 2 measures to turn, and 4 measures to do the lift.

Trust your instincts! Now that you have the basic shapes of blocking, feel free to make character-driven choices and movements :)

Don't forget to incorporate character into the songs and dances. I know that we are all very focused on the singing and choreography, now we just need to add character.

Please hold the train while people are boarding!

Everyone please look at the shift sheets that  put up backstage!

Even though you are off book, please keep looking through the text from time to time. A lot of characterization and growth can come from the script even as we approach show week.

In all of the songs, if there is a dance break, there can be more improvised (in character) banter/dialogue/chatter to make the scenes more alive.

Please do not fidget/mess with your mic packs after the mic check!

As we are getting lights set, please make sure you find your light!! We want you all to be lit :)

Hair can be bigger especially at the top of Act 1

Help your fellow actors (check costumes, mics, and mic packs to make sure everyone is good before going on stage.)

**Dramaturgy:** Find four names for the drunks. Send Quick sheet and social media.

**Costumes:** Planning to have [REDACTED] quick change between young Anastasia to teenage Anastasia at the ball (prologue, very quick). [REDACTED] has kindly offered to do a quick hair change, and has hair bows for the quick change.

For the hair quick change we are thinking of starting with hair up and then adding the bow if time allows for teen Anastasia.

We took some measurements and are getting costumes assembled for Act II, got costumes ordered, and will hopefully arrive sometime next week.

Costumes will start to be incorporated hopefully by the end of this week as we get them, and during the rest of the show process.

Cast will be sending in makeup and hair that they can do on their own

Cast will be providing their own shoes, preferably black character shoes, unless specified.

On Wednesday we will start working with the costumes, the tracking of quickchanges and how to move in our costumes.

**Props: Thank you for the props!** Looking for a metal hand bell (Theo has a lead), a push broom (wood handle & black/brown bristles). Also looking for a period-appropriate camera.

We talked about adding some props for Learn to Do it: Cloth napkins and 5 pictures (like big flash cards) while they are talking about Great Aunt Olga, Cousin Vanya, Duke of Oldenburg, Louise of Baden, and Count Sergei.

We are starting to incorporate props during rehearsal where we can!

Can we add a pull tab or a string, or a lock, or something to the lid of the music box? It is a bit difficult to open it, and since we use it for sound cues, we would love for it to be a little easier.

**Many of our props are borrowed, so please treat them with respect, and if it isn't your prop or you haven't been given explicit instructions to move it, do not touch it!**

White and blue bedspreads should ALWAYS be put back into the bags they came in when they are done being used.

Could we add a little guidebook or pamphlet for on the Alexander Bridge?

Could we explore ways to make the glasses and bottles look like they are full of liquid without actually using liquid? (Low priority)

Can we get another file for Gleb during scene three?

Can we look into possible drop cloths or fabric to drape over the Black Market Cart for Scene Two? We also need two cans of beans for scene two.

We know the phone on the desk is borrowed, but is there any way we could hide the cord?

For Act II, Scene III, can we have a picture of  on the side table?

Due to the crowded backstage, we are still figuring out if we can work another props table to the other side of the stage.

Can we get new envelopes and letters for Act II, Scene III? The humidity has caused the glue to get unruly.

We also still need a picture for the frame in Act II, Scene III.

Can we get a plastic shot glass for At II Scene III (Neva Club) for Marisa to throw?

Check the music box tab to make sure it is still secure.

**Scenic:** We would prefer it if Gleb's desk chair did not have wheels. Can the desk be on furniture sliders so cast members can push it onto the stage?

We need to pick the table and chairs for scene two

We're going to try to incorporate the theatre seats into scene two.

The opera chairs are shedding stuffing from the bottom pretty profusely, we'll need to look at that.

Do we have an approximate day for when the flats will be up?

We would also like glow tape for backstage as we get the lighting more settled. We would like to have some by Sunday

Flats will hopefully be hung on Saturday

We are spiking all of the scenic elements and transitions this week.

We will hopefully have the projector set up next week :)

We struck two of the tables and four of the chairs from The Neva Club (spacing with the choreo and flats), we will need to pick the most level of the four tables.

The reversible headboard for the bed broke and needs looked at! The pillars on the bed are decaying and need to be moved more carefully.

Can we get glow tape on the steps of the train?

Can we look at the Gleb's office projection (windows), there are some distracting flashes that stole attention.

**Lighting:** Things are looking fantastic thus far! As we go and get access to the drive, we will look into narrowing some scenes.

This week we would like for [REDACTED] to be up front to discuss narrowing lighting for scenes and other lighting design things.

Sound will be cuing lights for the camera flashes & the explosions (Will note approximately when those are for our lighting folks :))

Can we narrow in the lighting a bit for the office scenes (Scenes 3, 5, 10)?

During the Traveling scene (10) could we cut the spotlight after Vlad says "Wait for me!"

Could we isolate the stage a little more at the end of Once Upon A December to be more central on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

The lights in Stay I Pray You could be generally dimmer, especially with the fade.

Could the Jump blackout go quicker?

We would love some more saturated colors for Journey To The Past. Also, before intermission keep lights on [REDACTED] as she runs off stage (it is part of the scene with the acting beat)

During the Garden scene (Act II Scene IV) could we have even less light on stage?

Can we also get more light on Howie in the transition between Learn To Do It and The Neva Flows scenes?

**Sound:** Can we get rid of most of the vamps? Will discuss with [REDACTED]

Will need voiceover for train station for Scene 8

Can we figure out how to set up sound for rehearsal on Monday? There has been talk about operating it from the seats but we aren't sure on how that gets set up.

We are ironing out music cues, and have gotten rid of all of the vamps, if we need them back we can add them back.

Look into adding an audio cue for Land of Yesterday (cued by Lily) and during the Reprise of Countess and the Common Man (Measures 12-13), also cued by actors.

Look into cutting some music from Anya/Hotel Transition (too much music for the moment)

Will need to record "Neva Flows" ensemble, will see how things work later on.

Shelby will be running the sound effects.

We will start incorporating sound effects, hopefully tomorrow.

Can we look at the Traveling Sequence [REDACTED] vocally in the future? (Note for [REDACTED])

Look into leveling the volumes for the sound effects (so so sorry friends) Will be moving to the booth tomorrow. We will also be adding microphones tomorrow.

Can we look at making the Finale music a little longer? (Theo note)

Will need to chain camera flash 3 and explosion 1 together

Boost volume on war sounds & Explosions

Sound will be cuing lights for the camera flashes & the explosions (Will note approximately when those are for our lighting folks :))

Will look into adding train station sounds for Stay I Pray You, and train We'll Go From There.

May need an applause sound for after Quartet at the Ballet.

The truck backfires on measure 116

██████████ will be bringing in batteries for mic packs, so hopefully the battery life becomes more consistent.

██████████ will be looking into fixing the speakers (a1 and a3)

Need to work with actors to adjust the mic distance further from their mouths (picking up breathing and pops)

We added some wireless mics backstage for the actors that we will need to level at some point.

Will hopefully finish setting all of the mic cues into the board by the end of the weekend :)

Need to convert the pre-show playlist to Apple Music. If that doesn't work, we will need to figure out another way to set up the pre-show playlist.

Need to make a sound cue for the pre-show recording.

Increase the volume of the truck's backfiring.

Less train noise for We'll Go From There and at Train Station.

Can we get some compression on ██████████ and ██████████ sound levels?

Look at making a better pre-show playlist.

**FOH:** Usher sign-up is out, recruit your friends and family to help out!

There are posters, THANK YOU ██████████!!!! Please, everyone, hang them up all over the place!

There is a draft of the program that was looked at during rehearsal.

**Technical Director:** There is a bump on the floor on Stage Left, is there any way we can smooth it down or cover it so that people aren't having to lift things over it? That is why the sliders aren't always working.

The monitors backstage keep going out.

It was requested by the actors to be able to hear their singing through the backstage monitors, if that could happen, great, if not, also great, honestly it would be a Christmas Miracle to have all of the monitors working at the same time.

Also, can we get sound into the greenroom/the booth? Both went out.

Can we also get some little lights or a better lighting situation for the sound booth? We don't want to bleed into the audience but also need to be able to read our scripts. I know that will need to be a happy medium and that it's cramped, but a little more light would be greatly appreciated :)

**Stage Management:** [REDACTED] needs access to the drive for lighting!

We'll need to see how many stage hands we need backstage soon.

Sound will be cuing lights for the camera flashes & the explosions (Will note approximately when those are for our lighting folks :))

Can we get a god mic set up for [REDACTED] and can we also get that fed into the green room?

Can [REDACTED] be in charge of the Mic batteries?

Is it okay if [REDACTED] is in charge of facilitating mics at the beginning of shows?

Need to write a script for the preshow announcement and hopefully pull someone in [REDACTED] to record that :)

Between Act II Scenes II and III, wait to see [REDACTED] before calling the cue.

Don't wait for the music to end to call the next cues for Crowd of Thousands and at the end of Act II between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (Orange Blossoms)

Could we also call spotlights sooner for Quartet at the Ballet?