



“The public sometimes thinks an artist is a television set - something comes out, nothing goes back. They don’t realize that if they can hear me, then I can hear them - their coughs, the electronic beeps from their wristwatches, the squeaking of their shoes... The art of performance depends on the relationship between the musician and the audience. In the concert hall, each motionless listener is part of the performance. The concentration of the player charges the electric tension in the auditorium and returns to him magnified... The audience grows together and becomes a group. There’s the impression of a journey undertaken together and a goal achieved.”

- Pianist Alfred Brendel

When you come to see a concert, the musicians are aware of you. Unlike a movie or a television show, the audience can affect or influence what happens on stage. A musician can hear the audience laugh, cry, become restless, or become still and silent with concentration. The mood of the audience can affect the mood of the performance - this is why we say that no two performances are alike, because no two audiences are the same.

While you sit in the audience, please remember that you are a part of the concert journey. You do not take that journey alone; please respect the people who are on the journey with you and allow them to enjoy the performance also. We hope you enjoy the show!

COURTESY: What is expected?

- Cell phones must be turned off during the performance. Texting and all other phone uses are distractions from the experience!
- Gum, candy, food and beverages are not allowed inside the concert hall.
- Cameras and recording devices of ANY kind are not permitted in the auditorium.

APPLAUSE: When do I clap?

- Clap when the concertmaster enters the stage to “tune the orchestra.”
- Clap when the conductor enters and bows.
- Clap when the conductor drops both hands to his/her sides and turns toward the audience. This tells you when the piece is over.
- Applause at the end of the concert is an appropriate noise to show your thanks and appreciation to the orchestra for their performance.

ENTRANCE & EXIT

- Arrive at least 15 minutes before the program begins. Stay with your group at all times.
- Please be attentive and respond quickly to directions from teachers, chaperones, and the BPO staff.
- Please use the restrooms BEFORE the concert begins, or during intermission.
- Once the concert has started, remain seated during the entire concert. If there is an emergency situation, an usher can escort you from the auditorium.