



# CIRCLE PRESENTS SERIES

## THEATRE ETIQUETTE

A live theatre performance is a unique happening for many of us in this age of television and movies. Students, teachers, & chaperones are invited to sit and enjoy the experience together.

### **Teachers should discuss theatre etiquette in advance with students.**

They should also discuss the content of the play they are about to see. Chaperones are asked to be good models for the students and they should feel comfortable in the role of gently reminding others of appropriate theatre behavior.

## THEATRE ETIQUETTE FOR STUDENTS

### **Make yourselves comfortable before the show begins.**

- Take off coats, visit restrooms, & settle into your seats. Restroom visits are discouraged during the performance.
- However, if it is necessary, all students should be accompanied to the restroom by an adult.

### **When to talk:**

- Usually before the houselights go down and then after the performance.
- Do not talk to one another (that means friends and mother) when you go to see a show, other-wise you'll never know what the play is all about and you'll make the actors shout just to make themselves be heard.
- So be still-don't say a word unless an actor asks you to follow along and do as they tell you to do.

### **When to clap:**

- Keep your hands in your lap, it is not appropriate to clap. Actors love to hear applause if there is cause for it.
- When the curtain comes down at the end of the performance, actors take their "curtain calls" – that means, they curtsy or they bow.
- You may applaud. This tells them how much you liked their work and liked the show.

### **When to laugh:**

- If a scene is funny, then laugh! Performers love this laughter.

### **Be courteous to those around you:**

- This means that you keep your hands in your lap and you don't kick chairs, pound your feet on the floor, or stand up in your seat.

### **What to do with your program (if available):**

- A program has a special use. Its purpose is to let you know exactly who is in the show. It also tells us other facts about the show.
- Read your program before the show begins, then lay it quietly in your lap.
- Programs make great souvenirs so be sure to take it with you.

### **In case of emergency:**

- Notify an adult.

### **Exiting the theatre:**

- When the lights come on, you walk (don't run) back up the aisle to the lobby.
- Stay with your group at all times.



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### **SUGGESTIONS FOR CHAPERONES**

- Be a good Role Model.
- Sit among the students.
- Visit with students during the bus or car ride to the theatre.
- Clarify your responsibility with school staff.
- Find out as much as you can about the facility restrooms and exits.
- Respond quickly and quietly to emergencies.
- Enjoy the performance.

### **PLEASE.....**

- **NO GUM, CANDY, OR FOOD**
- **NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**
- **NO RECORDING DEVICES**
- **REMAIN SEATED AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS**

### **\*NOTE:**

***Most plays run approximately 60 to ninety minutes in length.***