



# Create an Experience YOU WILL REMEMBER

Being an audience member does not mean that you play a passive role. You will be playing an important role in your own appreciation and the enjoyment of the performance for others. The performers are very aware of audience while they perform and each performance calls for different audience responses.

While live bands, musicians, and dancers may want audience members to clap and move to the beat, other performers require silent attention on the stage and will want an audience to applaud only when they have completed their performance. As you watch the show, think about the way you are being a part of the performance.

- What are the differences between attending a live concert and going to a movie or watching television?
- What are some different types of live performances?
- Name a few as a class. What kind of responses does an audience give in each circumstance?
- What kind of responses does an audience give in each circumstance?
- What are the different cues that a performer will give you so that you know how to respond? For example, might they put their instruments down, pause or bow?

Also, remember that even the smallest whispers or paper rustling can be heard throughout the auditorium. When you watch the performance, you are part of a community of audience members and you all work together to create your theatre experience.

## Things to keep in mind

1. Remember to turn off all cell phones, pagers and all electronic devices before the performance begins.
2. Talking should happen only before and after the performance unless otherwise prompted.
3. When the house lights dim, the performance is about to begin.  
Turn your attention towards the stage.
4. Cameras and other recording devices are usually not allowed.
5. Pay attention to the artists on stage; they will let you know what is an appropriate response whether it is applauding or laughing.
7. Leave your food, drinks, and chewing gum outside the auditorium.
8. Remember to check around your seat for everything that you brought into the auditorium when you leave.