



Student Matinee Etiquette

We are so excited to welcome you to Geva! To ensure a positive experience for everyone, please review these guidelines before the performance:

- If you were an actor on our stage, how would you like the audience to respond to your work? Our actors welcome appropriate responses to their performance! We encourage you to engage with them - laugh when it's funny, cry when it's sad, and lend them your support and focus. We don't want you to be completely silent or unresponsive! Instead, respond in the moment and then continue to listen carefully (and remember that others around you are listening as well). You don't want to miss anything important or exciting - there is no way to rewind!
- Unlike television or the movies, our actors share the same room with you and can hear you and see you. Our theatre is designed to allow noise to travel, so even quiet whispers or digging through a backpack can be audible. If the actors see you slouched in your seat sleeping, whispering to your neighbor, looking at your phone, or not paying attention in other ways, it can impact their performance as well. A live theatre performance is a conversation between the artists and the audience, in which you are an active participant. Your verbal and non-verbal responses directly affect the actors' energy; they take their cues from you, and you have influence over their work onstage. Offer your respect and contribute to a strong performance by keeping your eyes on the stage and saving conversations – even ones discussing the play - for after the show.
- To help us keep our space in great shape, please do not bring food, drink, gum, or candy into the theatre, and remember to keep your feet on the floor and off of the seat backs and stage. If you're seated in the balcony, no items (coats, playbills, etc.) should be placed on the balcony half-wall for the safety of the people seated on the orchestra level below you.
- Cell phones, headphones, games, laser pointers, and watches all emit light and make noise that's distracting both to the actors onstage and those seated around you. Please keep all devices off and tucked away in your bag. Texting, or quickly checking social media, may seem harmless and discreet, but actually draws a lot of attention and creates a distraction for those around you (and onstage in front of you!).
- Due to copyright laws, no pictures, video, or other recording can be taken of the show.
- Plan to use the restroom before the show starts so you can remain in the theatre during the performance.
- Keep bags and other personal items stored underneath your seat so nobody trips over them. For the safety of all audience members and actors (who may be making aisle entrances or exits), remember to keep the main aisles clear of personal belongings and outstretched legs!
- Most importantly...enjoy your experience at the theatre, engage, and have a wonderful time!