

SSSSHHHH ...

A live ballet performance is an interactive experience; the dancers perform for the audience, and the audience shows its appreciation to the dancers. Many students and families have never attended a ballet and it is important to know the behavior suitable for the theater.

Please take a moment and read the following points.

- 1.** The ballet performance is a live event. The dancers appreciate your attention; they can see and hear the audience and it is acceptable to laugh, clap, and respond to the performers.
- 2.** Applause is how dancers gauge your appreciation and approval of their dancing. Most often, applause is reserved for the end of the ballet, when the dancers take their final bow.
- 3.** Noise is a distraction to both the dancers and the other audience members. Talking, whispering, unwrapping candy, and “shushing” those who make noise, spoil the experience for the rest of the audience.
- 4.** Food, beverages, and chewing gum are not allowed in the theater.
- 5.** Cell phones, pagers, and anything electronic must be turned off during the performance.
- 6.** For the safety of the dancers, all photography, including flash photography and video recording, is strictly prohibited.
- 7.** Remember to respect the ushers, theater staff, and the theater itself.

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!

Take-Aways

- How does showing respect and appreciation of the dancers in a ballet compare or contrast from showing respect and appreciation for people in other roles in other venues (i.e., athletes at a sports match, teachers in a classroom, politicians at a debate)?

