



STUDENT RECITALS AT COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Student recitals at CSA play an important role in the musical training and development of the young musician. Recitals give students an opportunity to display their talents and achievements with family, friends, teachers, and fellow students. Recitals give young people the chance to experience an important event – a public performance before a live, appreciative audience. The school believes that high quality recitals, carried out in a professional manner, will add to students’ learning experiences, preparing the young musician for formal concert attendance and developing poise and self-assurance.

We have prepared the following guidelines so that students and parents will know what is expected and so that the recital experience will be a positive one for both the performer and the audience.

- **ARRIVAL TIME:** Students should arrive **no later than 20 minutes** before recital time. Check in advance with your teacher to determine the exact time of your performance.
- **CHECK-IN:** A staff member will be at the recital hall entrance to check the attendance of each performer. Make sure you notify the check-in person of your arrival.
- **SEATING:** Performers enter from the lobby and are seated in the front rows of the recital hall. Audience members should stay seated during the recital, but if one must exit, please enter/exit only during applause. This way you will not disturb others in the audience or performers.
- **TAKING A BOW:** Always bow when the audience applauds before and after your performance. Your teacher can give you tips on bowing like a professional.
- **DRESS:** For a special occasion like a recital, performers should add to the festivities by looking special. Appropriate dress would be neat clothing saved for special occasions such as dress slacks, skirts, blouses and shirts with collars. Clothes should be comfortable, though, so don’t plan on wearing the fanciest clothes you own. Jeans shorts, sports apparel and sneakers are not appropriate attire for a recital. Clothing that “gets in the way” of concentrating on the music should be avoided.
- **AUDIENCE MANNERS:** Performers need the full attention, support and good manners of the audience. Families should plan to stay seated until the last performer

has finished. Photographs should be taken AFTER the recitals, not during. Younger children should be coached on sitting very quietly. Cell phones should be turned off. Even the best-prepared performer can be distracted by audience noises and lose concentration, thereby spoiling in an instant all the hard work that went into preparing for a recital.

- **ASSISTING YOUR CHILD:** Even if children have had frequent recital experiences, but especially if they have not, parents can greatly assist by doing recital “practice runs” at home. Setting the stage, trying out recital pieces for family and neighbors, practicing walking, bowing, etc. – all will enhance the student’s comfort and ensure his/her preparedness. By all means, give as many positive reinforcements as you can. Performing in public requires hard work and lots of courage and concentration. Whether performances go perfectly or not, the greatest contribution a parent can make is in positive support, encouraging words, pats on the back, and instilling pride for a job well done.

We look forward to seeing and hearing everyone at the recitals.