

Theatre Etiquette

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This time of year there are many events hosted in the Charleston area... Family Circle Cup, Spoleto, concerts, the symphony, etc. In keeping with this, April's topic is entertainment etiquette.

Theatre applause etiquette

Now a days going to the theatre to see a play, ballet or a concert, is an event that is often planned well in advance, looked forward to and can be of considerable expense.

Is there theatre applause etiquette that we need to be aware of?

Applauding is done at certain times and not others, as it can be distracting and can interrupt the performance. For example, individual performances are applauded at the end of the ballet, not during.

Etiquette also suggests that if you do not like the performance... and do not care to applaud, fine. However, making vocal noises of disapproval, like booing or shouting, is not considered appropriate.

Practicing good theatre applause etiquette helps to enhance the pleasure of the evening for you, your guest, and the people seated around you.

Event Noise Protocol

Many of us love to be entertained. Whether it is a live performance or a movie, is there such a thing as event noise protocol....of course there is!

Here are a few tips that will ensure your consideration of others.



- Please keep your voice down and try to avoid talking altogether, during the production.
- Please do not subject the people around you to your singing or bouncing in your seat as you “enjoy” the show or event.
- Remember to silence all cell phones and beepers. That may sound elementary; however, it never seems to fail that during a theatre performance you will hear at least one ringing cell phone.
- Be considerate and remove an unruly child immediately. Do not think that people do not notice or are not offended. We have all been in situations where there has been an unmannerly child and somehow the parents do not seem to notice how it distracts and annoys the people around them.

Remember, the pleasure of an event is enhanced by your behavior towards others and the behavior of others towards you.

