

Dear Parent,

Congratulations on your child being selected to be a member of the NC Middle School All State Choir! This is an honor and should be taken very seriously. Because we take All State so seriously, I wanted to take the time to share with you a few expectations that we have for both children and parents. Please take the time to review them with your family before attending the event.

#### You Are Part of the Concert

The audience members, as well as the musicians, are participants in every concert. When you participate in listening to the music, you will be taking an important part by sharing this experience with others in the audience and with the musicians on stage. Formal concerts are much different from rock concerts or sporting events, and require you to know some specific concert manners. In order to make a concert enjoyable for everyone, here are some tips to remember:

Enter the auditorium quietly. Once you have been seated, be alert to activity on the stage as the musicians take their place for the concert.

Never stand or move around while music is being performed. It distracts listeners around you, as well as the performers. If you must leave for any reason, wait until a piece is finished, and the audience is applauding. Also, return to your seat only between numbers.

It is impolite to talk, or even whisper, while the music is being performed. Listeners and performers are also distracted by sounds from programs, candy wrappers, jewelry and other objects. Remain still, and be thoughtful of others by talking or making sounds only between numbers.

It is impolite to wear hats or caps during a concert.

It is impolite to eat or drink refreshments during a concert.

If you must cough or sneeze while the music is being performed, always try to muffle the sound with a tissue or handkerchief. Wait until the piece is finished if possible.

Watch the conductor when the music stops to decide whether or not to applaud. You will know when it is time to applaud when the conductor lowers his/her arms.

Cell phones should be silenced and put away for the concert.

If you have small children, please make sure they remain seated and quiet. Crying children should be removed immediately. Sitting on the end of a row is advisable.

At NO time is it permissible to block the aisles. This is safety and fire hazard.

Videotaping is PROHIBITED. The concert is being professionally recorded. Please make arrangements to purchase your CD or DVD.

All students are expected to stay for the entire concert. The concert will conclude by 4:15PM. Children will be seated in the concert audience under the safe watch of teachers. You WILL NOT be permitted to take your child out of the concert before the Mixed portion of the concert is over. You are putting yourself and your child in an awkward situation if you do not follow this rule. Thanks so much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Angel Rudd

NC Middle School All State Coordinator