



Guidelines for all TVMTA Events

Please photocopy and give to each student registered in a TVMTA event.

In events for TVMTA members only, students registered in any TVMTA event must be studying with a member in good standing. If a student is from a music school or academy, his/her teacher must be member of TVMTA. Teachers must abide by the TVMTA By-laws. All communication with students and parents will be the teacher's responsibility. Questions and comments pertaining to any phase of an event must be conducted between teacher and event chairperson only. Teachers are responsible for giving each student registered in a TVMTA event a copy of these guidelines and instructing him/her in the following stated department.

ETIQUETTE

- Photos may be taken early before the recital or after the recital as during the recital distracts the performers. Videos are okay as long as strong lights or flashes are not used and it is done unobtrusively. Please turn off all beeping watches, pagers and cell phones as they can be very distracting to the performers.
- All performers age 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult.
- Students, parents and guests are requested to remain for the entire program as a courtesy to all performers. Performances will be kept at approximately 1 hour in length.
- Crying babies and distracting small children should be taken out immediately as a courtesy to all.

APPEARANCE

- Should be neat and in no way detract from the performance.
- Clothing should be "***dressy, not sporty***" for both genders.
- Girls should wear a dress or skirt of knee length or longer, or dress pants. Blouses and dresses should be "non-revealing." No miniskirts. Pianists: Should refrain from wearing long sleeve dresses/blouses, bracelets and rings that might interfere with their performance. Also, fingernails should be trimmed. Shoes should allow for proper pedaling. Platform shoes and tennis shoes, (thick soles) are inappropriate.
- Boys should wear shirts tucked in – preferably, with coat, sweater or vest and tie.
- Hair should be neat and out of the face.

- **INAPPROPRIATE** attire includes: Tennis shoes, T-shirts, hoodies, denim of any kind, sweatpants, shorts, and flip-flops.
- **NOTE: Your appearance is just as important as your performance.** Proper attire shows respect to your audience. Remember the audience is there to listen to you perform and the time and attention they give you deserves the same courtesy.

ARRIVAL TIME AT PERFORMANCE

- Students **should be at the venue at least 15 minutes before** the event begins. This allows time for the student to “get settled” and for the chairperson to seat them properly. It also eliminates distraction from the event.
- **Any student arriving after an event begins will possibly not be allowed to perform.**

PERFORMANCE

- Approach the performing area graciously, with poise – not too fast or too slow.
- Acknowledge audience/judge with a smile and a bow.
- Take time in starting. Think before you start. Piano students: Adjust the bench, find the correct pedal, and be sure hands are in correct places on the piano, feet on floor, (not crossed or wound around bench leg.) Other performers: Follow your teacher’s instructions.
- **No gum or candy chewing.**
- Remain expressionless if error occurs. If memory lapses occur, try to go on, skipping ahead, if necessary. If recall is gone, simply exit as gracefully as possible.
- If more than one selection is performed, take time to pause with hands in lap before going on to the next piece.

PERFORMANCE EXIT

- Piano students: At completion of performance, bring your hands to your lap and then stand up at front of piano. Other students: Follow your teacher’s instructions.
- Be sure to always acknowledge your audience/judge with a bow. This is to show your appreciation for their attention.
- Leave performing area graciously.