

THEATER ETIQUETTE

The McCarter guidelines of theater etiquette intend to encourage responsible behavior. We hope to create a positive theater experience for our audience members by providing a clean and comfortable environment, free from distracting noises and behaviors, where you can enjoy the performance. Please review the following checklist with your students before your arrival.

- Food, gum, candy, soda, and bottled water are not allowed in the auditorium during any performances. Please remind your students that the sound of wrappers, drinking and/or chewing is very distracting to the actors and to other audience members
- Smoking is not permitted in any area while at McCarter Theatre.
- Please refrain from using cameras, phones, video or audio recording equipment once you enter the theatre and during the performance. Copyright law forbids the recording of live theater without the express written consent of various authors and/or their representatives.
- Please leave backpacks and lunches on the bus, unless you have previously contacted and communicated this need with McCarter Theatre Center. Backpacks and lunches are not allowed inside the theatre.
- In order to maintain a quiet distraction-free space inside the theatre, we ask that all of our patrons turn their cell phones off and keep them stowed in their pocket during the performance. The sounds and light generated on cell phones distract not only other audience members, but also the actors.
- To maintain a respectful space inside the theatre we ask that students refrain from putting their feet on the chairs in front of them, as well as to stay quiet during the performance. We hope that all of our patrons enjoy their time at McCarter, but we ask that you do so respectfully with our actors and other patrons in mind.
- When you enter the theatre please go directly to your seat and then use the restroom. We ask that you use the restroom before the show or during intermission. Leaving the theatre during the middle of a performance can be distracting to the actors and other patrons.
- When the performance ends, please remain seated for our Post-Show discussion. Whether your school chooses to stay for the Post-Show, or has to leave directly after the performance, a McCarter staff member will come to where you are seated to escort your group out of the theatre; you will be taken directly to your buses.
- McCarter Theatre Center takes pride in our building and our performances spaces. In order to maintain that level of excellence in our theatre, we ask that patrons remember to take all of their belongings and trash with them as they exit the theater.

Thank You and Enjoy the Show!