

What to expect at a Queensland Ballet School & Community Matinee

Queensland Ballet love to welcome school groups into the theatre to see our performances. To help you and your classmates have the best time possible we've put together these top tips for before, during and after the performance.

CONTACT US

For more information about attending a Queensland Ballet performance, in-school workshops, high school work experience or how to arrange a visit to Queensland Ballet, contact:

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1.

— Visit Queensland Ballet's website to find information about the performance you are going to see which could include a description of the storyline, the characters or the production elements (costumes, music, staging). There are also activity sheets and videos to watch.

2.

— If you're coming to the theatre during the day you'll probably be in your school uniform. If you have the chance to decide what you wear, you might like to use this special occasion to dress up.

3.

— It is important you arrive at least 30 minutes before the performance starts to give everyone in the audience time to get to their seats. Queensland Ballet performances are often sold out so it could be very busy! People who arrive late might not be allowed to enter the theatre until after the performance has started.

4.

— Try to bring as few personal belongings as possible to the theatre. If you need to bring your bag, make sure you arrive with enough time to check it into the cloakroom. Food and drink are not allowed inside the theatre and headphones, music devices and cameras should be kept out of the theatre too. If you have your phone on you, switch it off before you go inside!

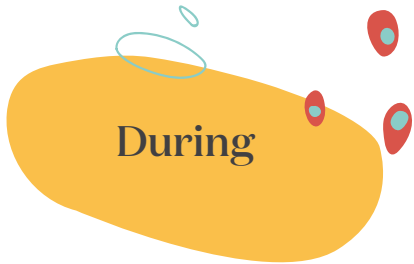
Before

5.

— At a Queensland Ballet School and Community Matinee there will be a special opportunity after the performance for the audience to ask questions of the Artistic team. Have a think about what you might like to ask and whether your question is about the performance itself (such as the story, the choreography or the production elements) or whether your question is about ballet as an artform or what it's like to be a dancer.

6.

— Discuss with your teacher and friends about some of the differences between a live dance performance and watching a movie or TV show. Remember the people on stage can see and hear you in the audience, so get ready to be very quiet and to sit still for an extended period of time.



During

1. — When the lights go down and the audience goes quiet, you know the performance is about to start!
2. — Remember to sit in your seat as quietly and as still as you can so you don't distract the performers on the stage.
3. — If you need help for any reason during the performance, the front of house staff will be able to help you. Aim to leave the theatre as quietly as possible, and only if you really must.
4. — Some performances might have an interval; a break in the middle of the performance for around 20 minutes. Queensland Ballet's School and Community Matinees don't have an interval and including the Q&A will run for 70 minutes.
5. — Enjoy the experience of being taken on a journey while you watch the performance. Let your imagination run wild as you take in the story and the magic of the movement, music, costumes and staging.
6. — You can show the dancers how much you enjoyed their performance by clapping when they take a bow at the end. Sometimes the audience also claps when the dancer does a tricky move.
7. — The performance is finished when the dancers take their final bow, the audience claps and the lights come on.
8. — A Q&A with the Artistic team will follow the performance in all Queensland Ballet School and Community Matinees. Be brave and make the most of the special opportunity to ask that question you prepared.



After

— Back at school, have a discussion with your teacher and classmates about the performance. Some questions to ask your friends might include:

How would you describe your experience of attending the theatre?

What did you notice about the production elements (music, costumes, set, lighting) and how were these used to help tell the story?

How did it make you feel?

What was your first impression of the performance? Describe what you liked/disliked and why?

Would you recommend the performance to someone else? Why?/Why not?

What did you enjoy about the movement?