

I Am Going to a Concert!

A concert guide to
prepare for my visit to
see the St. Louis
Symphony Orchestra



**St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra**

Stéphane Denève : Music Director



I am going to a St. Louis Symphony Orchestra concert with my teacher and classmates. A concert is a musical performance given by musicians. The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the group of musicians who will perform for us.





To get to the concert, I will take a bus. The bus will pick me, my classmates, and my teacher up at our school.



The concert will be performed at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

When our bus pulls up to the Touhill Performing Arts Center, a helper (also called a volunteer) will greet us and show us the way.



We will enter the Touhill Performing Arts Center through the front doors.

As we enter the building, this is what we will see.



There will be many other people from other schools, so it is important to stay with my group.

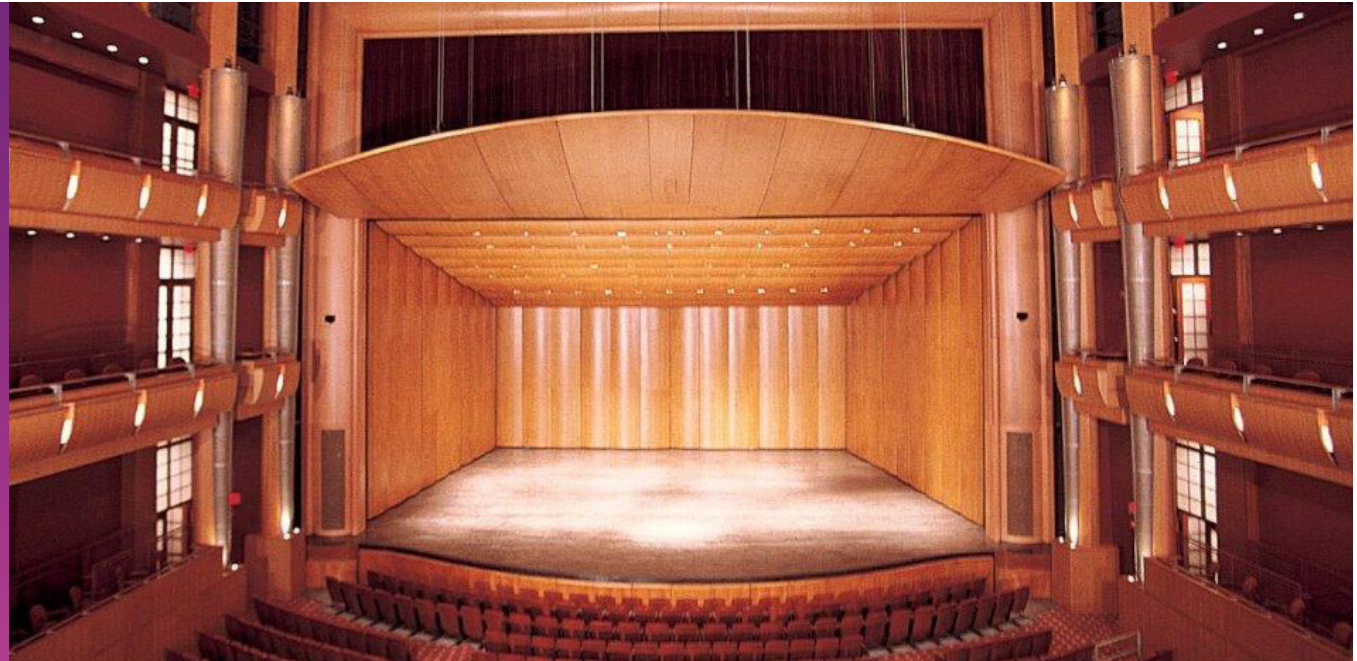
When we walk into the building, an usher will lead us to the doors to enter the auditorium. An auditorium is another word for a theatre or concert hall.

An usher is someone who takes people to their seats.



This is what I will see!

The auditorium is a large space with many seats and a big stage where the musicians will perform.



An usher will take me to the seat where I will sit for the concert.

When I get to my seat, I will sit down and patiently wait for the concert to begin. While I wait, trivia questions will be projected on a screen above the stage. If I know the answer, I can quietly tell the person sitting next to me.

I might see and hear some of the musicians warming up on stage.



I will hear an announcement when it is time for the concert to start. This is the cue for the audience to be quiet.

Then the concertmaster, a musician who plays the violin, will walk on stage. We will clap for the concertmaster. Then they will lead the orchestra in tuning.



The concert will begin when the conductor, who is the leader of the musicians, comes on the stage. I can clap for the conductor. His name is Samuel.

There will also be a host. Her name is Rachel.



The musicians will perform music written for different styles of dance. I will see dancers from Ballet 314 during the performance. If I want to, I can dance too! I can follow the instructions of the host and move to the music.



Once the music begins, I will try to be as quiet as I can so everyone can hear the music. If the sound in the auditorium becomes too loud, hurts my ears, or makes me feel nervous, there are a few strategies I can use. I can...



1. Cover my ears



2. Ask for headphones



If I feel like I need to take a break from the concert, I can ask to leave the auditorium and go to the quiet room. An adult will need to go with me.

I can stay in the quiet room until I feel better and I am ready to go back to my seat in the auditorium.

If I need to use the restroom while we are at the concert, I will tell an adult who will take me.



When each piece of music is finished, everyone will clap (also known as applause). Clapping is a nice way to let the musicians know that I liked the music.



After the last piece of music, when the clapping is done, that means the concert is over and it is time to get back on the bus to go back to school.

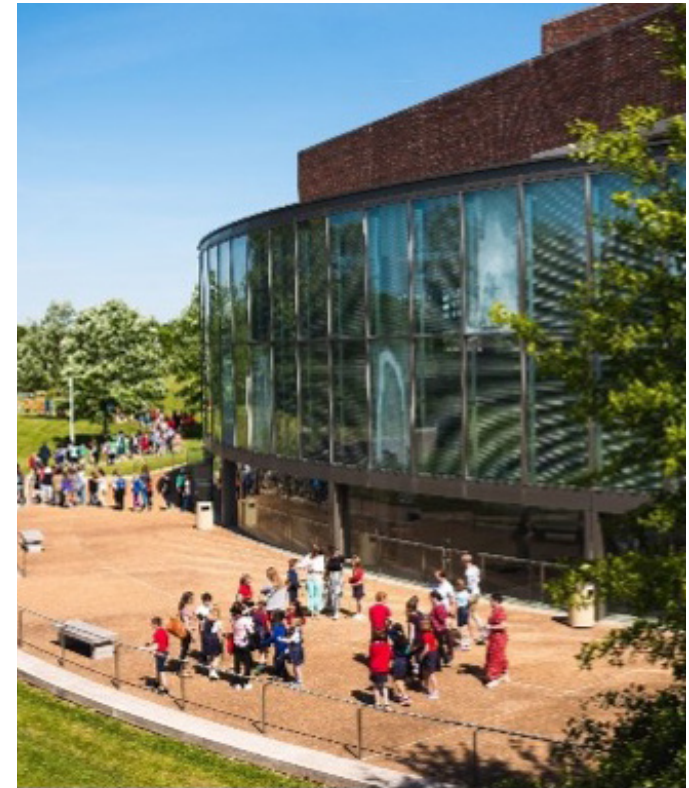
Our bus will be in a different place than where it dropped us off, so helpers will show us where to find it.



We will exit the auditorium ...



And head toward the big glass doors that will take us outside ...



Then we will follow the sidewalk to the parking lot where our bus will be waiting.

I will tell our helpers “thank you” before I get on the bus.



Back to school I go!

What a great time I had going to a concert and listening to the music of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

