



Welcome to the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra! Here is our Education Team's TOP TEN things to know before you go...

- 10** We are so excited to have you as our guests at Powell Hall!
- 9** Some people like to get dressed up for the symphony and other people come dressed more casually. It's really up to you!
- 8** Powell Hall seats over 2,500 people. If you don't know where your seat is located, ask an usher and they will point you in the right direction!
- 7** There is no food or drink allowed in the auditorium. Make sure you finish your refreshments in the lobby before entering the auditorium.
- 6** Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices inside the auditorium. The use of an electronic device can be distracting to those around you and also to the performers.  
Be in your seat before the concert starts. Once the concert starts, the ushers will not let you into the auditorium until the conclusion of the piece. Sometimes one piece can take up the entire concert, so be on time! The ushers ring bells in the lobby when it's time to take your seat.
- 5**
- 4** Please refrain from talking during the concert. It can be disruptive to those around you and to the performers.
- 3** If you need to get up from your seat, please do so during the applause so you will not disrupt those around you or the performers. In case of emergency, please exit the hall as quietly and calmly as possible.
- 2** When do I clap? The current trend in orchestral music is to only clap at the end of a piece. If a piece has multiple movements, it can be tricky to know when the piece actually ends. Watch the conductor, he signals the end of each piece by putting both his/her hands down and turning around to face the audience. If you accidentally clap between movements, don't worry. At the SLSO, we appreciate your applause! A long time ago when most of the music we play was written, it was appropriate to clap between movements.

AND THE **#1** THING TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO...

- 1** Orchestral music is an emotional roller coaster so hold on tight and enjoy the experience. It's okay to not like everything you hear on the concert. In fact, we encourage you to form your own opinions and talk about the music. Orchestral music is an art and was made to be discussed by an audience, so let your imaginations run wild!