

THE PERFORMING ARTS AT ROWAN: A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

DID YOU KNOW your tuition includes access to many free and discounted performances? Rowan produces over 60 a year, taking place in 4 different venues on campus, featuring students, faculty, and world renowned artists across a wide range of genres.



STEP 1: SELECT YOUR EVENT

Browse this season's offerings on rowan.tix.com. When choosing a performance, be sure to note the date, time, and location.



STEP 2: GETTING TICKETS

You can obtain advance tickets by visiting the main Box Office in the Pfleeger Concert Hall lobby (attached to Wilson Hall), Monday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and presenting your Rowan ID. You can also arrive early to the performance venue, and box office staff will be ready to issue you a ticket one hour before show time.

Most performance events are general admission and free to Rowan students. Exceptions include the Marie Rader Presenting Series headliner, and the annual Holiday Celebration. Student tickets for these special events are offered at generous discounts, and can be purchased in person at the Pfleeger Box Office or online at rowan.tix.com.



STEP 5: AFTER THE PERFORMANCE

SPREAD THE WORD!

Tag! Tweet! Post about the show!

@PerformingArtsatRowan  

Email: performingarts@rowan.edu

Reach out to us, or discuss the experience with your fellow audience members! Comparing experiences is a great way to process performance.



STEP 3: THE NIGHT OF THE SHOW

Come as you are. There are no dress codes as a Rowan Performing Arts audience member! Whether you have obtained your ticket in advance, or plan to grab one just before the show, note the performance start time, and plan to arrive **15 minutes early**, especially if the venue is new to you. Doors will open 15 - 30 minutes before showtime so you can choose seats and get settled.

A note about **LATE** seating: If you arrive late to a show, you may need to wait in the lobby until it is appropriate for house managers to open the doors and let you in. This is out of respect for the performers and other audience members. Plan ahead. Don't miss the beginning of the show!

STEP 4: THE PERFORMANCE

Things to do during a performance

- Clap! Gasp! Laugh! Cry! Participate!
- Devote your focus to the performance; save conversations for later.
- Leave your food and beverages at home; they are not allowed in performance venues.
- Keep your phone silenced and away in your bag*

*UNLESS it's a social media night! Some performances will encourage smart phone use, so keep your eyes peeled for special invitations!

Live Performance is a dialogue between the performers and the audience. The artists on stage will appreciate your reactions. Consider your role as an audience member to be actively engaged, rather than passively observing.



HOW DO I TALK ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE?

1. TRUST YOUR GUT

The performing arts, like all art, is for everyone. It is a conversation, and unlike science or math, there are no right or wrong answers. If a performance makes you feel sad, happy, confused, or even a little uncomfortable, you're engaged in an important way. Instead of thinking about a performance experience as good or bad, notice if you're still thinking about it days later, what sticks with you, and why.

2. ASK QUESTIONS

Upon first view or listen, sometimes a live performance doesn't make sense to us, perhaps because it's new or unrecognizable. How to find a way in?

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS:

MUSIC

- **Form:** What kind of instruments or singers are performing? What kind of music is being performed?
- **Rhythm:** What is the beat and pace of the music? Is it steady or irregular? Is it fast or slow?
- **Dynamics:** What is the volume of the sound? Is it soft, loud, or go back and forth?
- **Melody:** What is the main tune of the piece that often comes up repeatedly? Is it always the same?
- **Harmony:** How do different notes sound when played together? Is the sound happy or somber?
- **Texture:** How do different layers of the performance work together? Are there multiple instruments or singers? Are the different sections playing different parts?

THEATRE & DANCE

- **Actions:** What are the performers doing?
- **Quality:** How are the actions being performed?
- **Costume:** How are the performers dressed? What does it say about their character or performance?
- **Set:** What does the stage look like? Any structures or backgrounds?
- **Lighting:** How is light (or shadow) used on stage? Are there tints or spotlights? Does it make the scene joyful, somber, or scary?
- **Sound:** What music or sound effects do you hear? Do they make the scene frightening, sad, or upbeat? Alternatively, how is silence or stillness used?

MORE TIPS

- Learn about the show's context before hand. Read reviews or the script if possible. Research the original writers or creators.
- Read the director's note in the program. It often discusses what the production is trying to accomplish or choices they made.
- Take notes with paper and pencil on any reactions you have, observations, or quotes.
- Talk to the director or performers if possible.