RELAXED FAMILY CONCERT

Classics with Thomas Søndergård

Sunday, January 7, 2024  2pm

PRE-VISIT STORY
I am going to the *Classics with Thomas Søndergård* concert at Orchestra Hall.

This is where the Minnesota Orchestra performs music.
The title of the concert is *Classics with Thomas Søndergård*.

The music on the concert was chosen by the musicians and conductor to share their favorite musical memories. New memories are made for the whole family with music from *The Nutcracker* and stories from Minnesota Orchestra musicians.

Some of the music is loud. Some of the music is quiet and not loud. Some of the music is fast, and some is slow.
I can participate in an art activity before or after the concert. I can design my own conductor’s baton before the concert and learn from a conductor how to use it after the concert. I can use pipe cleaners and other craft materials to make the baton. I can also make a memory collage to take home using music listening devices like CDs, Walkmans and record players.
I can see, touch, and hear musical instruments before or after the concert.

I can sing, move, and dance to the music if I want to.

The music activity can be loud when the instruments are played.

If the sounds are too loud, I can cover my ears, wear headphones, or go to a quiet area.
Meeting a Musician and Conductor

I can meet a musician and conductor from the Orchestra and see or listen to their instruments.

I can ask the musician and conductor questions about the instruments or the concert.

Other people will want to ask the musician and conductor questions, too. I can wait my turn to ask my question.
I can dance and move my body with teachers from the Performing Institute of Minnesota Dance Ensemble.

Through exploration and play we will dance together with ribbons and discover new ways of moving to music.
If I need to take a break, I will tell the person I came with.

If I want to do an art activity but there are too many people, I can ask for a to-go bag and do the activity in the quiet area.

I can relax in the quiet area. I can use the tools in the quiet area to help my body feel calm.
The conductor is the person standing in front of the orchestra.

The conductor uses a stick called a baton to lead the orchestra.

I will see the conductor move the baton in the air to let the musicians know how fast or slow to play the music.

The concert’s conductor is Thomas Søndergård.
The concert has a host. The host tells us what will happen during the concert. Emily Switzer is the concert’s host, and she also plays the violin in the orchestra.
An orchestra is a group of musicians playing different instruments. Sometimes the musicians play together and sometimes they take turns.
I can watch videos of instruments online if I want to hear what they sound like before the concert.

All the instruments sound different. Some of the instruments are louder, and some are softer. Some of the instruments make high sounds, and some make low sounds.
I can answer questions that the host asks the audience during the concert.

I can dance in my seat, clap, or conduct along with music.

People around me may also be clapping.

I can wear headphones or cover my ears if I like quieter sounds.
Everyone attending the concert is here to experience music.

When I experience music, I may feel an emotion. People often express feelings about the music by humming, singing, or waving their arms.

If I am feeling overwhelmed, I can go to a new seat or a quiet area to listen to the music.
When the concert is over, the conductor and musicians will stand up and bow.

I can clap or say “Bravo” to let the musicians know I liked the concert.
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