

School Concert

Venue

Guide

We are going to see a **School Concert**
at the **Toronto Symphony Orchestra**.



Roy Thomson Hall

The concert is at **Roy Thomson Hall**.



Getting there

We will take the **school bus** or the **TTC** to get to the concert.

School bus drop-off

If we take the **school bus**, it will **drop us off** near the main doors (on Simcoe Street).



Greeting

Our class will be **greeted** by a staff member. Our teacher will tell them the name of our school to be signed in.



Ushers

We will see many people dressed in black uniforms. They are **ushers**. **Ushers** are there to help us before, during, and after the concert.



Police officers

We will see **Police officers**. They help keep traffic moving and keep us safe. We can wave hello and smile at them if we want.



Hundreds of students

There will be **hundreds of students** arriving at the same time. We will pay close attention and stick with our class to avoid getting mixed up with other schools.



Taking the TTC

If we **take the TTC**, there may be people we do not know at the station, at the stop, and on the train or streetcar. These people won't all be going to the concert, but some might be.



St. Andrew Station

If we take the subway, we will get off at **St. Andrew Station**. We will walk to Roy Thomson Hall from here.



Walking above ground

If the weather is nice, we can **walk above ground**. We will walk a block and cross the street at the traffic lights to get to the hall.



Walking underground

If the weather is poor, we can **walk underground** using the PATH system.



Going up

We can take the **stairs, escalator**, or an **elevator** up from the PATH to the exit to the street.



Exit outside

We will go through the Box Office doors to **exit outside**.



Box Office doors

Once outside the **box office doors**, our group will be greeted by an usher and asked to line up.



Lining up outside

Our class will be **lining up outside** while waiting. It might be cold or raining. We will be sure to wear appropriate clothes for the weather.



Taken into the lobby

Once ready, our class will be **taken into the lobby** by an usher. We will need to put away any outside food or drink before entering the hall.



Main doors

We will enter through the **main doors**.



Follow the usher

Roy Thomson Hall is a big place! The usher knows where our school is sitting and will take us there. We will **follow the usher**.



Three floors

There are **three floors** where our school might be seated, each with its own exciting viewpoint:

- Main Floor (bottom)
- Mezzanine (middle)
- Balcony (top)



Stairs

If we are on the upper floors, the usher will take us up the **stairs**. If we take the **stairs**, we will walk slowly and carefully and hold on to the handrail.



Elevator

If someone can't manage the stairs, an usher will help them use the **elevator**. The closest **elevator** is near the lobby entrance.



Where are we sitting?

The ushers will tell us **where we are sitting**. There are no tickets. The ushers have a map of where each school is **sitting**.



Who is sitting with us?

Our class will be sitting together, but we may be next to another school that we do not know. There are over 2,000 students at the concert today!



Assisted-hearing devices

If someone in our class is hard of hearing, they can get a **device** that they can wear to help them hear the concert.



Waiting to start

While **waiting for the concert to start**, I can watch the musicians warming up on stage, look around me, or talk to my classmates. If I need to use the washroom, I can ask my teacher.



Use washrooms before

It is better to **use the washrooms before** the concert starts because you don't want to miss any music! There are washrooms on each floor.



Stage

The **stage** is where the Orchestra will perform. I cannot touch the **stage** or go under or onto the **stage**.



Boxes

Some of the seats are at the sides of the auditorium and are a little separate from the rest—these are called **boxes**. They have their own entrance, where people can exit the auditorium if they need to.



Choir Loft

Some seats are right above the Orchestra. This section is called the **Choir Loft**. If our school is sitting in these special seats, we will have the closest view of the musicians!



Parterres

Some seats are in the **parterres** at the back, on the sides of the auditorium. They are near an exit, where people can leave the auditorium if they need to.



Accessible seating

If someone in our class uses a **mobility device**, we will be placed in a section with accessible seating. We will all be together, and each of us will be able to see and hear the concert.



Concert begins

When the **concert begins**, the lights will dim but not go out. We can tell the concert is starting because the members of the Orchestra take their seats, and then the concertmaster and conductor come out.



Conductor

The **conductor** is the leader of the Orchestra. They use a baton to tell the musicians how and when to play. The **conductor** may speak to the audience.



During the concert

During the concert, we can sit in our seats and listen to the music. We may get chances to participate too. Sometimes, the audience is asked questions or invited to sing and play along.



Washroom break

If we need to use the **washroom** during the concert, our teacher or chaperones can take us at any time. Our seats will be saved for us when we come back.



Where are the washrooms?

To get to a **washroom**, we will need to go back to the lobby. When exiting and entering, we must be quiet and respectful so that others can hear the music.



Accessing washrooms

Some of the **washrooms** are on different floors. We can take the stairs or elevator to **access these washrooms**.



Types of washrooms

There are **washrooms** for boys and **washrooms** for girls. There are also **washrooms** for families. We will choose the **washroom** we are comfortable using and go to it.



Inside the washrooms

The **washrooms** are bright and the sinks are automatic. That means that the taps will turn on by themselves. This may startle me, but I know I am safe.



Clapping

I can **clap** at the end of a piece if I like it. Other people will **clap** too, and this may make a loud sound. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears.



Bows

I will know it is the end of the concert because the conductor and the Orchestra will stand and **bow**. I can clap during the **bows** to show them how much I enjoyed the concert.



Regrouping

After the concert, the lights get brighter and it is time to leave. Our class will leave the auditorium and go to the lobby to **regroup**. We can use the washrooms before we leave the building, but they will be very busy.



Exiting

Everyone is leaving at the same time, and we may have to wait for the schools ahead of us to **exit** first. We can't stay in the building because it is being prepared for the next concert.



Buses everywhere!

There will be **buses everywhere** coming to pick up all the schools. There might even be buses dropping off students for the afternoon!



Walking to our bus

Our bus may be parked farther away than before. We will be **walking to our bus**. We will pay close attention and stick with our class to avoid getting mixed up with other schools.



Feedback

We can let the TSO know what we thought of the concert. It could be a short written reflection, or even a drawing. Our teacher can share our **feedback** by mail or email with the TSO.



See you soon!

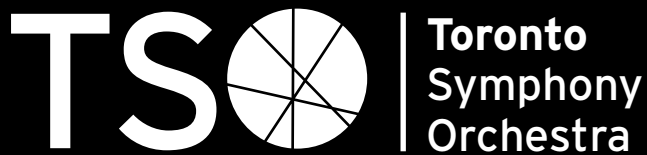
We look forward to welcoming **you** to our school concert!

Credits

This School Concert Venue Guide was created by the **TSO** and is based on our **Relaxed Performance Venue Guide**.

Photo credits:

“Rush hour at Yonge”—Enoch Leung
St. Andrew Station—Secondarywaltz
All other photos—Jag Gundu



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Have a question?

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