

Vi Le

Mrs.Booth

Orchestra 2

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Final: Discuss the Visual Aspect of a Performance as an Orchestra Director

Welcome everyone to our new youth orchestra at Wakefield! I know you all must be excited to start playing today, but first, I am going to quickly address the visual aspect of a performance that I expected you to follow when we begin playing.

Why is the visual aspect of the group be important you ask? As an orchestra, we must pay attention to how we look and how we present ourselves to our audience. Focusing on your visual aspects as well as your playing will help improve the quality of our orchestra.

First, you all must show confidence. Know your music well enough so that you could show that aspect easily during a performance. Second is your posture. You must show a sense of professionalism when performing for an audience. Therefore, incorrect sitting and playing posture will be unacceptable. Next, when watching a concert, no audience would like to see a stiff group playing noise that they have never heard before. You have to draw in the audience with how you play. You must play expressively. But how? Show some movement. You don't need to move excessively, just enough so that your audience knew "Ah, they are very engage in their music" And last, you must never forget about communication. Communication with me as your director, communication with your fellow group members. You must look at me sometimes in one or two measures, that's how we will talk. But since your group members will be performing along with you, you must be aware of them. Listen to them and give a glance at them, so that you know you guys are playing together.

When an orchestra have no of the above aspects (confidence, correct posture, and communication) it could impact our orchestra in a negative way as we perform. We could be playing without knowing we aren't together or that we could look unappealing to our audience. That's why I

want you to take a look at these two videos, Escala performing Palladio and Final Count Down by two cellists.

As you have all seen, while their locations, number of audience and number of group members differed. In both videos, you could see all elements that I have address before. Both group members communicated with eye contact, they showed confidence as they played without their music sheets and there were many movement.

Confidence, correct posture and communication – always remember those three as we perform. That's all, you may unpack your instrument and we will shortly begin our rehearsal.