

# STAGE ETIQUETTE AND POSITIONING

Student Handout

## ALWAYS...

- ★ Have guitars tuned and cymbals on stands, prior to stepping on stage.
  - Nobody wants to hear you 'twanging' before you perform.
  - Start the audience with a clean slate.
- ★ Have extra cords, mics, stands, guitars (if possible), and other equipment in the case that something breaks or stops working during the performance.
- ★ HAVE A SET LIST TAPED TO THE FLOOR ON STAGE. (One for each band member)
- ★ Maintain a CLEAN STAGE. All cords, and guitar stands, etc. . . , are to be well behind you in an organized manner. The only thing between you and your amps should be a patch cord, whether to be a guitar, a mic or whatever; this will alleviate the fear of tripping up in the cord. The best set up is if the patch cords for the mics are in front.
- ★ Communicate with your band mates during the performance. Eye contact is very important. Do whatever you need to do to keep the music "tight" on stage.
- ★ Thank the fans for coming out to watch, and thank the OTHER BANDS that you are playing with.
- ★ GOLDEN RULE: Make sure that everything you do is relevant to your performance, making it more interesting, polished, and professional.

## NEVER...

- ★ Jam while waiting for the rest of the band to get ready. It makes you look elite and differentiates you from the rest of the band. People are attracted to confidence, not arrogance.
- ★ Distort sound or comprehension with your audience by having physical features that are distracting. (ie. Hair in the face)
- ★ Admit to or react to any mistake made on stage. Most people will have no idea that you made it.

\*\*\*CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING VIDEO ON STAGE ETIQUETTE\*\*\*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoWC7d7BA0Q>