

Orchestra Excitement at the Palace Theater

On Thursday October 18, 2007 the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra led, by the talented Leif Bjaland, performed for us at the beautiful and well kept Palace Theater.

The conductor, Leif Bjaland, started his career by conducting his sixth grade band. Leif Bjaland conducts both in Connecticut and Florida, and he hopes to continue to conduct here in Connecticut because of its beautiful Palace Theater. The children were on the edge of their seats and chattering excitedly while waiting for the show to begin, and during all this enthusiasm the Orchestra was getting ready behind the curtain. As the Orchestra came on stage the crowd clapped like crazy and then slowly quieted down, as soon as there was complete silence Mr. Leif Bjaland lead the Orchestra in the "Mambo". The children loved this song and were raring for more when it ended.

During the show the children were very excitable, especially when fast songs like the "Can-Can" were played. The children's mood seemed to change whenever the conductor spoke to the audience. Also, when Rotella School played the African drums the audience loved it so much they went wild, the conductor could not even calm them down. When the orchestra played the "Can-Can" the children were bouncing in their seats, and made so much noise you could not hear yourself think! The Orchestra at the Palace was beyond great; all the children and adults of all ages loved it.

Foxx Dube, Seventh Grade, WAMS