



<https://marylandraptorconservancy.org/>
info@marylandraptorconservancy.org

Programming Rules and Requirements

Mixed Age Groups: We ask that groups be composed of students within at least 3 grades or years of each other. For example, 5th, 6th, & 7th or K,2,3.

Chaperones Required: We require a minimum number of chaperones for the safety of our birds and guests:

Grades	Ratios of students to chaperones
K-2 nd	1:10
3 rd -12 th	1:20
Special Needs Students	1:10

*Chaperones must be 20 years of age and be responsible for student behavior.

If you have students with special support needs or accommodations, please let us know at least three days prior to the program.

Times

- **Contracted Times:** We will start and end programs according to contracted times. We cannot change or extend the time.

Late Arrival: if your group is late then we will shorten the program and content.

Location Requirements

Because this is a live animal program, we require some minimum accommodation for our birds and guests. These may change based on student numbers, weather, or other conditions. Our staff reserves the right to change or modify programs based on venue and accommodations.

- **Parking/Drop off:** We will need to drop off our materials and live birds of prey, please let us know where we can pull our cars for pickup and drop off.



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- **Heat and Cold:** If there are extremes of heat or cold, we will talk with you about adapting the programs, moving, or cancelling for the health of our birds.
- **Table:** For all 1 hour+ programs we require at least one 6' table.
- **Space:** We need at least a 5' space, free of students/guests and open floor in front of and around the table for our bird handlers to walk.
- **Sound/Noise:** Our birds are sensitive to loud sounds, bells, and noises. We require quiet areas, or areas where the birds can be sheltered from noise. We will talk with you about your venue. Guest responsibility includes keeping students and visitors as quiet and calm as possible.
- **Dogs/Other live animals:** Some live birds are afraid of dogs. If there may be dogs (service dogs or pets) at your venue, please let us know.
- **Students/guest seating:** All program participants must stay seated for the duration of the program. Walking around, jumping up, running, or getting out of seats is not safe and may require live birds to be delayed or prevented from coming out.

Guest Responsibilities

- **Behavior Management-** We prioritize the safety of our birds and that of our guests. Students/guests must be supervised during the entire program, and their behavior monitored and managed. It is not the responsibility of our staff to manage behavior and we reserve the right to pause or end a program if there is a danger to our birds, guests, or staff.

Discriminatory, harassing, or otherwise unwelcome behavior based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, genetic information, parental status, marital status, or sexual orientation is not acceptable. This behavior may result in the end of programs or the inability to book future programs.