

SYRACUSE STAGE

Going to the Theatre
Social Narrative



We are going to Syracuse Stage.

We will park the car and then walk to the entrance of Syracuse Stage.

If I need help outside, there will be people in blue hats who are friendly helpers. They may come and talk to me about the play.

When I get there, I will see a big sign saying Syracuse Stage. Outside of the front doors of Syracuse Stage there is a courtyard with red and gray bricks.

We may have to stand in line to get into the doors. We may have to wait.



We need to have tickets to see the show.

My parents or family members may have brought tickets from home or we may get them from the ticket window.



Once we have our tickets, we will go into the lobby.

A theatre usher may greet us.

A theatre usher is a friendly helper. I can ask the theatre usher for help.

Theatre ushers wear black clothes and a badge on a red necklace.



In the lobby, a volunteer may greet us.

A volunteer has fidgets, ear plugs, and other helpful items. I can take a fidget from the volunteer if I want, I do not have to take one.

A volunteer is a friendly helper. I can ask the volunteer for help.

Sensory Friendly helpers wear blue shirts and a badge on a necklace.



The doors into the bathroom are in the lobby.

I will let my parents or family know if I have to go to the bathroom. I can go to the bathroom any time I need to.

The toilet will flush when I stand up. The flushing toilet can be loud and flush more than one time.

The faucets are automatic. I do not need to turn faucets on to wash my hands.

When I put my hand under the paper towel machine, it will give me a paper towel automatically. I do not need to touch the machine. It can be loud.



There is a water fountain in between the bathrooms. If I need a drink of water, I can ask for one.



The theatre has two sections, the orchestra and the balcony.

My ticket will say if I am sitting in the orchestra or the balcony.

If I am in the orchestra, I will walk through the lobby to the doors to the theatre. This is a picture of the lobby.

There will also be a quiet space in the lobby I can go to if I need a break during the show. A volunteer can help me if I need to go there.



If the ticket says balcony, I will walk up the stairs or take the elevator. A theatre usher can take me to the elevator.



This is the upstairs lobby. If I go up the stairs, this is where I will be.

There will also be a quiet space here I can go to if I need a break during the show. A volunteer can help me go there.



The theatre usher will scan my ticket.

The scanner machine beeps each time the usher scans a ticket. The ticket tells me where to sit.

The theatre usher will also give me a program.

The program is a book that tells me about the people who helped make the show.

Programs have pictures of the actors and tell me the names of the songs I will hear in the show.



When I get to my seat, I will sit down.

I will be sitting next to my family. I might have my family on one side of me and a person I don't know on the other side of me.



When I am sitting, sometimes a person will walk in front of me.

If a person is in my way to see the show, I can politely ask the person "Can you please move out of my way? Thank you."

When the show is about to start, a person will talk to the whole audience to welcome everyone. After this, the lights will dim and then the music will start.



After each song, some people will clap.

Clapping is nice because it tells the actors you liked their song.

If I want to clap, I can. I don't have to clap.

If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears or hold my family's hand.

People clap only for a short time then the clapping is over.



In the middle of the show, there will be a break. This break is called intermission.

During the break, many people will stand up to go get a drink or to use the bathroom.

If I want to, I can ask for a snack or a drink. I can eat my snack or drink with my mask off in the special lobby area and then put my mask back on.

I can also ask to use the bathroom if I need to. There may be a line to the bathroom. I will wait in the line until it is my turn.

After the break, everyone will come back and sit down in their seats again. There might be a line and I might have to wait.



At the end of the show, the actors will come to the front of the stage and bow while singing and dancing. This is called a curtain call.

After curtain call, many people will clap. Clapping is nice because it tells the actors you liked their show. If I want to clap, I can. I don't have to clap.

Some people will also stand up while clapping. This is called a standing ovation. If I want to stand and clap, I can. I don't have to stand up.

If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears or hold my family's hand.



Special thanks to Theatre Development Fund's Autism Theatre Initiative for serving as an advisor, www.tdf.org/autism

This Sensory Friendly performance is supported through volunteers from SUNY Upstate Medical University and the Galisano Center for Special Needs