



I'M GOING TO SEE A
SHOW AT THE TOBIN
CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS





1

I am going to a see show at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. When I get to the Tobin Center, I will walk up wide cement stairs to the big glass front doors. If I look around, I may see lots of buses, vans and people. These people are coming to see the show, too. If it is busy, I may have to wait outside before I can go in the theatre. While I wait, I may hear birds chirping, people talking, and cars driving by. If I get scared or upset by all the people and noise, an adult can help by holding my hand or taking me to a more quiet area.



2

To get inside the building, I will walk through the big glass front doors. A security person will be standing on the inside of the big glass doors. They will welcome me into the building.



3

After I am welcomed by the security person, I will need a ticket. Everyone needs a ticket to see the show. I will get my ticket from the Box Office which will be to my left. It looks like a small window with a person inside. I will tell the person inside the Box Office my name, then they will give me my ticket.



4

After I get my ticket, I will walk to an usher standing at a tall table. An usher is a person who works for the theatre. They wear black pants, a white collared shirt, a black vest with a name tag, and a face mask. The usher will scan my ticket before I go inside. The ticket scanner looks like a phone and doesn't make any noise. There may be a line of people waiting to get their tickets scanned too, so I may have to wait my turn.



5

After I go through security, I will be in the lobby of the building. The lobby is a big room with tall ceilings and a wall lit up with the color blue. In the lobby, I may see people sitting or standing, people walking into the theatre, and ushers helping people find their seat. It may get loud from people talking. If it gets too loud, I can cover my ears, put on headphones, or ask an adult to move to a more quiet space.



When I am ready to sit down, I will walk to the entrance of the performance hall and an usher will help me find my seat. The usher will be holding a clipboard with papers telling them where everyone sits. They will ask for my name to help them find my seat. Once the usher finds my seat, they will either show me to my seat or tell me how to get to my seat.



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If my seat is on the orchestra level, I will need to take the elevator or the stairs down. If my seat is on the grand tier level, mezzanine level, or balcony level, I will need to take the elevator or the stairs up.



8

To get to my seat, I will walk through two sets of wooden doors through a red hallway. There will be rope lights in the hallway to keep it from being too dark. This hallway helps my eyes get used to the darker lights inside the theatre. If I get scared, I can hold an adult's hand. Luckily, this hallway isn't very long.



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In the theatre, I will always be sitting with my group or family. If I need to stand up, move around, or lay down in the seat, that's okay. There will be extra room in the theatre. The first five rows on the orchestra level are turned down, so I can go to the front of the theatre if I need more room. If I need to leave the theatre, that is okay too, but I always need to let an adult know.



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The show will last around one hour. The lights will dim when the performance will begin. The lights will not go all the way out. While I watch the show, if any sounds are too loud, I can cover my ears with my hands or put on headphones or earplugs. If any lights are too bright, I can use my hands to cover my eyes or put on sunglasses. If I have extra energy and need to do something with my hands, I can play with fidgets. If I don't have my own headphones, earplugs, sunglasses, or fidgets, I can ask an usher for help. I can also go to the Sensory Supports table in the lobby.



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The Sensory Supports table will be in the middle of the lobby with an usher standing next to it. The table will be covered with a black tablecloth with gray baskets on top. I can borrow headphones, ear plugs, sunglasses, and fidgets from the usher standing at the table to help me feel comfortable during the show. I can get any of these supports at any time before or during the show, as long as I am with an adult. I will return any supports I used to the Sensory Supports table at the end of the show.



12

If I have to go to the bathroom, I can go at any time. I can find a bathroom on the orchestra level, grand tier level or mezzanine level. If I need help finding a bathroom, ushers will be nearby to help me. In the bathroom, the toilets will flush when I stand up. The sound of the toilet flushing can be loud. Sometimes the toilets flush more than once, that is okay. If I get scared by the sound of the toilet flushing, I can cover my ears or wear headphones or earplugs.



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If I need more room to go to the bathroom or change my clothes, I can go to the Adult Changing Room. The Adult Changing Room is located near the Carlos Alvarez Theatre. An usher can show me where to go.



14

If the noises or lights from the show get to be too much, I can go to the “Calming Center.” The “Calming Center” is a quiet space with comfortable seats, coloring pages and crayons, blankets and sensory bottles to help me feel relaxed. To find the Calming Center, I can follow the light blue lights from the lobby down a ramp to the Feik Rotunda or I can ask an usher for help.



15

If I need to be even further away from noise or other people, there is a special curtained off corner, called the “Peaceful Place”, I can sit inside for time by myself.



16

If I need extra space to move around, I can go to the sensory paths in the lobby. There is a sensory path on the floor and a sensory path on top of the Naylor Bar counter. There may be a line at the paths, so I may have to wait my turn. While I wait, I can watch the show projected on the screens in the lobby.



17

I will know the show is over when the performers bow. When the performers bow I can clap, cheer or stand up to tell them I think they did a good job. Other people around me may be clapping and cheering, too. It may get loud. If it gets too loud, I can cover my ears, wear headphones or earplugs, or leave the theatre with an adult.



18

Once the clapping is done and the performers have left the stage, the lights in the theatre will turn all the way on and I can leave my seat. Everyone will leave the theatre at the same time. It may be busy and noisy, so I will walk slowly. I will go out the same way I came in. I may have to wait my turn. While I wait, I may hear the sound of people talking or laughing.



GENERATION
NEXT
EDUCATION INITIATIVE



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The Tobin Center is a place I go to see the Arts.