



Going to Ford's Theatre Sensory-Friendly Performance: Pre-Visit Story

Ford's Theatre



Photo of Ford's Theatre ©Maxwell MacKenzie.

I am going to Ford's Theatre to see a play.

Lobby



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

When I get inside the building, I may have to wait in the lobby before the show begins.

The lobby may be crowded and noisy.

Box Office



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

We may pick up our tickets at the Box Office.

The Box Office Staff will ask me my name before giving me my ticket.

Bathrooms



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

Bathrooms are down this hallway. I can use the bathroom anytime during the show.

The hand dryers, faucets and toilets in the bathroom do not turn on or off automatically.

Museum



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.



Photo ©Maxwell MacKenzie.

If the Ford's Theatre Museum is open, I can visit the museum before the show and during intermission. I have to walk down a stairway to get to the museum.

Usher



Photos by Carolina Dulcey.

Ushers are friendly helpers who will:

- 1. Scan my ticket**
- 2. Give me a program book about the show, and**
- 3. Help me find where I will sit to see the show.**

Theatre



Photos by Carolina Dulcey.

There are many doors to the theatre. If I go through the wrong door, it's OK. Every door goes into the theatre.

When I go inside the theatre, I will see a lot of seats and the stage where the play will be performed.

Seat



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

When I am in the theatre, I will sit with my family or friends.

There will be other people here to see the play too.

I may be sitting next to someone I don't know.

Presidential Box



Photo ©Maxwell MacKenzie.

When I am inside the theatre, I will see a special area called the Presidential Box.

The Presidential Box is where President Abraham Lincoln sat in 1865.

It is decorated today just like it was for President Lincoln in 1865.

No one sits in the Box today. It is just a way to remember President Lincoln.

Technical Sound Booth



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

When I enter the theatre, I may see and walk past the technical sound booth.

There may be a worker at the booth getting ready for the show.

Even though he is close to me, I will not talk to him because he is working.

Play



Photo of the cast of *The Wiz* by Carol Rosegg.

A play is a story that is told by people on the stage.
The people in the play are called actors.
The actors pretend to be characters during the play.
The actors sing and dance to help tell the story.

Clapping



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

People clap during the show when they like something in the play.

I can clap if I like what I see or hear.

People clap for a short time.

Break Space



Sample break space: Balcony level. Photo by Allison Alonzy.



Sample break space: Orchestra level. Photo by Allison Alonzy.

If I need to take a break during the show, I can go to a Take-a-Break space.

I can go back to watching the show anytime I want to.

Intermission



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

There is a break during the middle of the performance.

The break is called an intermission. Intermission is 15 minutes long.

During intermission, I can leave the theatre to get a drink, eat a snack or use the bathroom.

When the intermission is over, I will go back to my seat to watch the rest of the show.

End of the Play



Photo of the cast of *The Wiz* by Gary Erskine.

When the play is over, all of the actors will come on stage and bow.

This is called a curtain call.

Many people will clap a lot to let the actors know how much they liked the show.

Leaving the Theatre



Photos by Carolina Dulcey.

When the show is over, I will leave the theatre.

The lobby will be crowded after the show.

I may have to wait my turn to leave the theatre and the lobby.

GOING TO FORD'S THEATRE – CREDITS

The pre-visit materials were developed by:

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