

Photo of Ford's Theatre ©Maxwell MacKenzie.

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 show.

Lobby



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

There may be a 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. They are open anytime during the show.

The paper towel dispensers, faucets and toilets in the bathroom are automatic. The automatic toilets may be loud and surprise me.

The bathrooms on the balcony level do not have automatic faucets or toilets.

Museum



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.



Photo ©Maxwell MacKenzie.

The Ford's Theatre Museum is open. I can visit the museum before the show.

I will walk down a stairway to get to the museum. I can ask a staff member for help if I need an elevator.

The museum is open during the show if I need a quiet space.

Ushers



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.



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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



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.



Photo 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 show 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.

Show



Photo of the company of *A Christmas Carol* by Carolina Dulcey.

A show 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 show.

The actors will sing to help tell the story.

Quiet Spaces



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

If I need to take a break during the show, I can go to a quiet space.

There are quiet spaces downstairs in the museum or in the lobby.

I can come back to watching the show when I am ready.

Clapping



Photo by Carolina Dulcey.

People clap during the show when they like something.

Sometimes people also cheer or stand when they love something.

I can clap, cheer or stand if I like what I see or hear. People usually clap for a short time.

End of the Show



Photo of Craig Wallace by Carolina Dulcey.

When the show 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



Photo 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
the Ford's Theatre Accessibility Committee.