



A Christmas Carol

Sensory Friendly Performance

Sponsored by



HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY

ABOUT THE SHOW

Going to see a live show at the theatre is a little like watching TV or going to the movies.

The difference between going to the movies and the theatre is that the people are performing on a stage right there in front of you.

They are called actors. An actor pretends to be someone else during the live show.



INSIDE THE THEATRE

Once we go inside the theatre's entrance, we may have to stand in line with our tickets.



I will see lots of people of all ages. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on headphones or ask an adult for help.

When it's our turn at the front of the line, we'll give our tickets to a person who will scan them with a small machine and let us into the theatre's lobby.



GETTING TO THE SHOW

The show will happen at a place called The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, located at 2 Southbridge Street in Worcester, MA.



If you travel to the show by car, you can park in the Federal Plaza Garage which is across the street from the theatre. The address of the garage is 570 Main Street in Worcester, MA.

GETTING TO OUR SEATS

Next, it's time to go into the big room where the live show on the stage will be. It's called the theatre. It is very large and has a lot of seats!



A person called an usher will look at our tickets and tell us which seats we will sit in. The numbers on the tickets let the usher know where we sit. It is not a choice.

Soon it will be time to start the show!

BEFORE THE SHOW



When we get inside the theatre's lobby, we might see and hear happy and festive sights and sounds. This part of the building might be crowded with a lot of people.

If I feel uncomfortable, I don't have to stay in this part of the building.

If I have to go to the restroom or if I want a drink of water before we go to our seats, I can do those things.



GETTING READY FOR THE SHOW

When it is time for the show to start, the lights in the theatre will go dimmer and everyone will get quiet.



I am happy that the show is about to start.



ABOUT THE SHOW

When the show starts, the actors will come out on stage. There will be fake smoke on stage. This smoke is a special effect to make it look like a foggy night.



Soon many more actors will come out on stage, and they will dance and sing Christmas songs. They are pretending to be people that lived many years ago.



ABOUT THE SHOW



If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones or ask an adult for help.

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

I know that even though the clapping can be loud and can feel scary, none of the noise can hurt me.



After each song, some people will clap. Clapping is nice because it tells the actors you liked their song.

ABOUT THE SHOW



The story has ghosts in it, but the ghosts are not real. They are actors wearing costumes and makeup. When the first ghost comes in, he will pretend to fly **above** the stage. The other actors will pretend to be afraid of him.

There will also be a lot of singing and dancing.

I will have a lot of fun at the show!



QUIET AREA

Sometimes it will be loud. If I don't see signs, an usher can help me locate the Quiet Area nearest to me.

If it's too loud at any time during the show, I can let my family know I need a break and I can go to the Quiet Area.



I can come back to my seat at any time to see the show when I'm ready after my break.

INTERMISSION

In the middle of the show, we will have a break. This break is called “intermission”. During the break, many people will stand up and leave their seat to get a drink or to use the restroom.



If I want to, I can ask for a snack or a drink or use the restroom.



ABOUT THE SHOW

After the break, everyone will come back and sit down in their seats again. It will get darker and quieter, just like at the beginning of the show. The actors will come back on the stage and finish telling the story.



If I am afraid or nervous, I can cover my ears or ask an adult for help.

The last ghost in the story is called the “Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come.”

It is a tall puppet with an actor inside, making it move. Some people might think the puppet is scary. There may be loud noises too. At the very end of the show, fake snow will fall from the ceiling. It may touch my body. The snow is not cold and cannot hurt me.

AT THE END OF THE SHOW



At the end of the show, all of the actors will come out on stage. This is called a curtain call. Many people will clap a lot as a way of thanking the actors and letting them know how much they liked the show.

If I want to clap, I can. I don't have to clap if I don't want to. If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear my headphones, or ask an adult for help.

AFTER THE SHOW

I will feel happy after the show, so I am very excited to go see "A Christmas Carol!"

After the show is over, we will leave the theatre and go home.



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Sponsored by



Assumption
University

If you have any questions about the upcoming performance, please reach out to us!

HANOVER THEATRE
& CONSERVATORY

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[Sensory Friendly performance info
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Special thanks for guidance from:

The Arc of Opportunity

The Autism Alliance

The Autism in Theatre Initiative

The Seven Hills Foundation

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