

HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY



Sensory-Friendly Performance of A Christmas Carol

A Social Narrative

GETTING TO THE SHOW

I am going to **The Hanover Theatre** to see a show.



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

OUTSIDE THE THEATRE

As I approach the theatre, I may wait briefly outside while everyone goes through a standard security screening.



This may include walking through a metal detector, having bags checked, or a quick handheld wand screening, if needed.

INSIDE THE THEATRE

Once I go inside the theatre's entrance, I may have to stand in line with my ticket.



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

When it's my turn at the front of the line, I will present my ticket to a person who will scan them with a small machine that beeps and let us into the theatre's lobby.



ABOUT THE SHOW

Seeing 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.



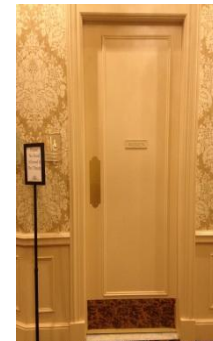
THE LOBBY



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



GETTING SEATED

Next, it's time to go into the big room where the live show on the stage will be. It's called the theatre house. It is very large and has over 2,000 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.

The usher may also offer me a show program to look at before the show begins.

Soon it will be time to start the show!

BEFORE THE SHOW

When it is time for the show to start, the lights in the theatre will dim and everyone will get quiet. The lights will stay at a low level during the show.

I am happy that the show is about to start.



THE START OF 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.



DURING 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!



DURING THE SHOW

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 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.

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



QUIET AREA

Sometimes it will be loud. 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.

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

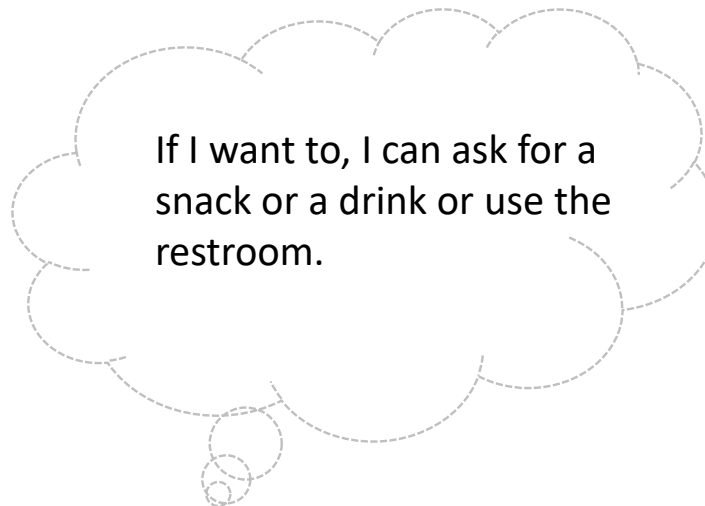
I can come back to my seat at any time to see the show when I'm ready after my break.



INTERMISSION

In the middle of the show, we will have a break called intermission.

During intermission, many people will stand up and leave their seat to get a drink or to use the restroom.



AFTER INTERMISSION, ACT 2

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 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.

THE END OF THE SHOW



At the end of the show, all the actors will come out on stage to bow for the audience. 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 for help.

AFTER THE SHOW

After the show is over, everyone in the audience will leave the theatre. I can leave the theatre the same way I entered the building.

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



A Christmas Carol

2025 Production Sponsored by



**Everyone at The Hanover Theatre hopes
I have a great time at the show!**

**HANOVER THEATRE
& CONSERVATORY**

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