

DES MOINES PERFORMING ARTS

# I'M SEEING A PLAY AT THE CIVIC CENTER!

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- The Civic Center
- Arriving
- Ticket Office
- Entering the Lobby
- Usher and Security
- Lobby
- Bathrooms
- Seat
- Lights
- Performance
- Breaks
- Clapping
- Leaving



# THE CIVIC CENTER

I am going to a show at the Civic Center.

I might drive or walk to the theater with my group.

When I get there someone from the theater will greet me.




# ARRIVING

When I get inside the building I will see many doors, windows and people.

Many other groups may be walking in with me who are also going to see the show. If it is too loud, I can ask an adult for help or take a break if I need to.




# TICKET OFFICE

If I don't already have my ticket, I will have to go to the Ticket Office. At the Ticket Office a helper will give me a ticket to get into the performance.

I may have to wait in line to get my ticket at the Ticket Office.



# LOBBY

After I get my ticket, I will go into the lobby of the theater.

To get into the lobby, I will either go up stairs or a ramp and go through the glass doors.

There will be other people going into the lobby as well.



# USHER AND SECURITY

At the glass doors, I will show my ticket to an usher that will scan my ticket.

I will then go through security and into the lobby.




# LOBBY

In the theater lobby, I will see activities like dance, science experiments and art-making stations. I can do these activities if I want to. There may be a lot of people in the lobby. I can take a break if I need to.

A quiet space will be available on the second floor with books to read, coloring sheets and soft places to sit.




# BATHROOMS

I can use the restroom before, during or after the show.

If I need to use the restroom during the show, I can ask my adult to take me and leave the theater quietly.

I will use the restroom then go back to my seat in the theater.



# MY SEAT

As I enter the theater, a helper will give me a program with information about the show.

When I get inside the theater I will choose my seat with my group.

Many other groups will be finding their seats. People will arrive at different times. I will need to wait in my seat until everyone arrives.



# LIGHTS

Before the show there will be an announcement to let me know that the show is ready to start.

I will also know the show is starting because the lights will change. The lights will go off, and it will be darker than before.



# PERFORMANCE

During the performance, musicians may play instruments, sing and make sounds with their voices.

Actors may speak, dance and play.

The actors may look into the audience and may even speak with the audience.




# BREAKS

If the show is too loud, I can cover my ears or borrow a pair of noise canceling headphones from the Guest Services Counter.

If I need to take a break, I can ask my adult to take me to Nollen Lobby where I can find coloring sheets and a quiet place to sit.



# CLAPPING

During the show I will see actors onstage. If I like something I can laugh and clap.

At the end of the show, actors will come onstage to bow and everyone will clap as a way to say thank you. If the clapping is too loud I can cover my ears or quietly leave the theater.




# LEAVING

When the actors leave the stage after their bows the show is over and the lights will come on.

Everyone will leave the theater at once and I may have to wait in line to leave. I'll walk out of the Civic Center the same way I came in. I might have to wait for a car to pick me up or walk to meet it.

I can talk about the play with my group after the performance ends.