



Social Story: Holiday Pops

December 17, 2022

Presented by The Midland Symphony Orchestra at the
Midland Center for the Arts

I am going to see a show at the Midland Center for the Arts.

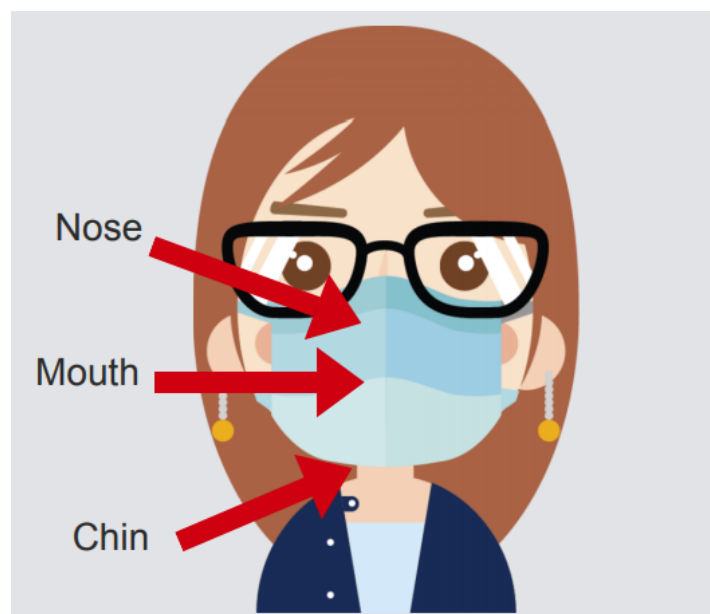
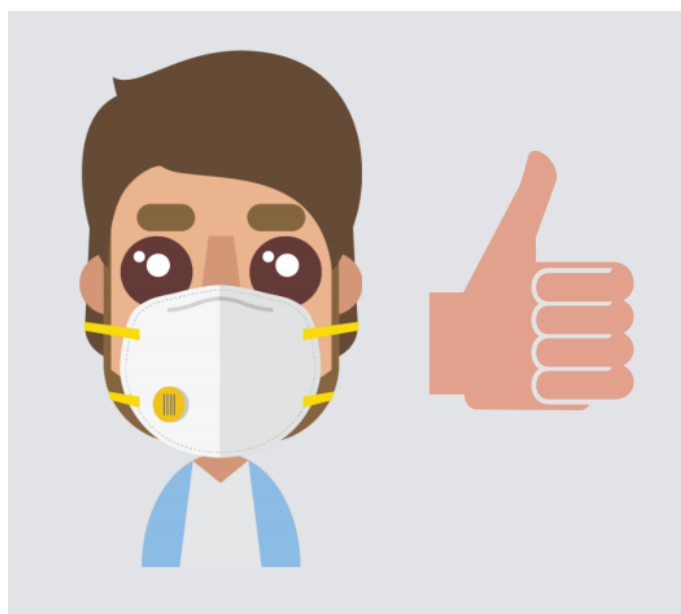


This is the parking lot at the Midland Center for the Arts. We will get out of our car here and walk to the doors.



It is not required that everyone who enters the Center for the Arts wear a mask to help protect others from COVID-19.

I may see other people wearing masks. I can wear my mask if it makes me comfortable while attending the performance.



There are restrooms where I can wash my hands, as well as hand-sanitizer stations available for me to use.



These are the glass doors we will go through to enter the building.

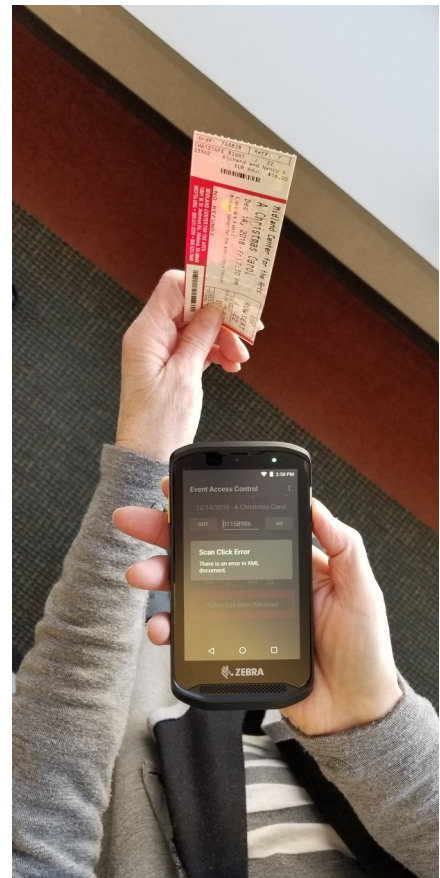


This is the Ticket Office. We might have to wait in line to buy our tickets or pick up our Will Call tickets here.



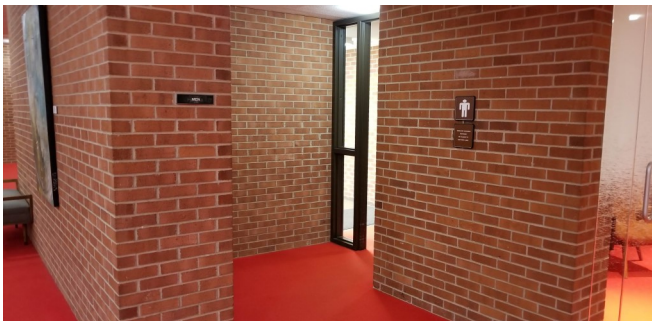
This is the Brick Lobby. We will walk through this lobby to the doors where an usher will greet us.

When we are ready to go into the theater, an usher will scan my ticket with this device. The ticket scanner makes a “whoosh” noise that sounds like a light saber from Star Wars! The usher will tell me to go to the right or the left to find our seats.

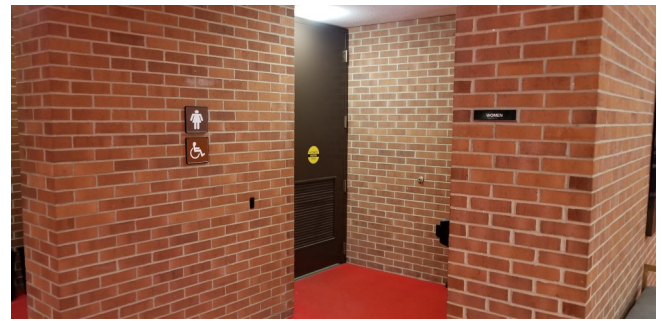




We will walk into the Red Carpet Lobby. The carpet is red like an apple. There is artwork on the walls I can look at.



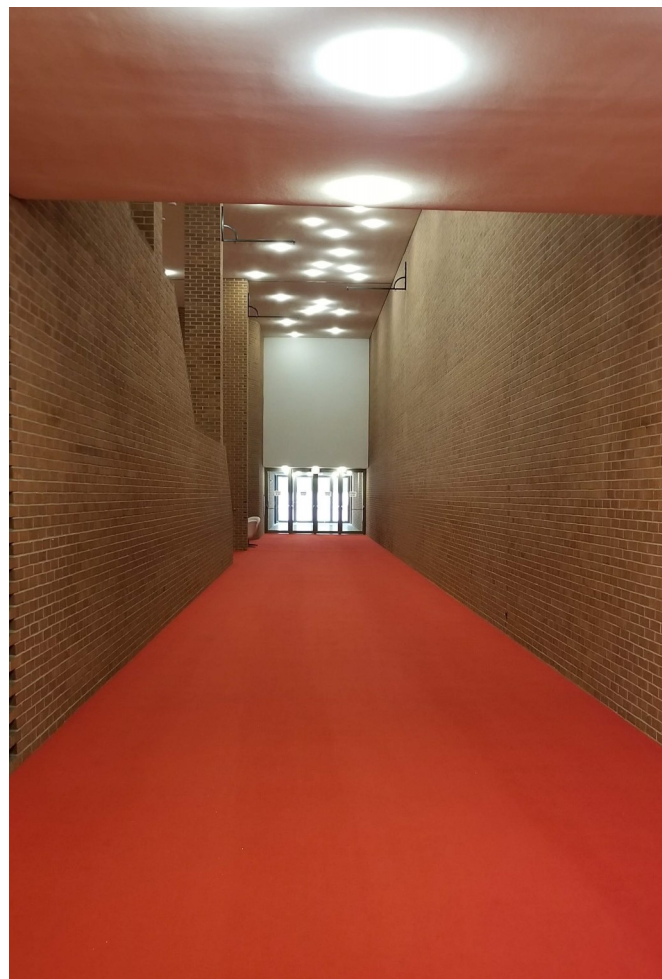
Men's restroom entrance to the left



Women's restroom entrance to the right

These are the restrooms doors in the Red Carpet Lobby. These restrooms have toilets with automatic flushers. Restrooms with manual flushers are located by the art studios.

We will walk down a long hallway to the auditorium doors.



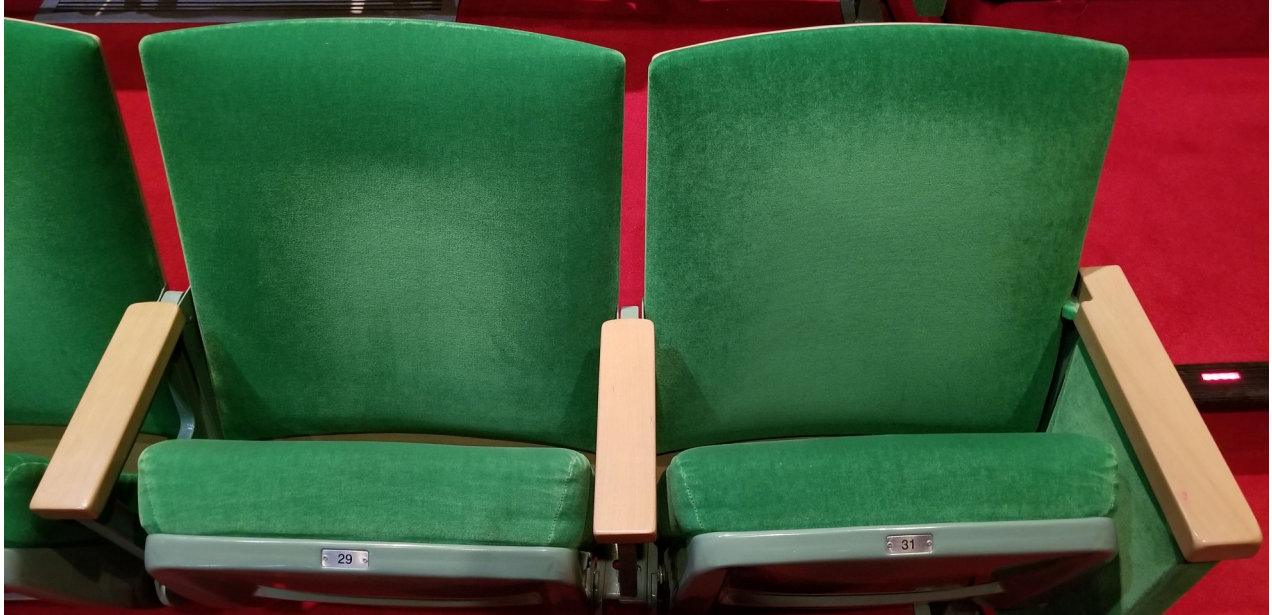
These are the doors to the auditorium. I will follow our usher through these doors to our seats.



These are the seats. They are green like an apple! When I enter the theater, I will follow my family and friends to our seats. I may have to walk up or down some stairs to find my row. I will have an assigned seat for this show; the rows have letters and the seats have numbers on them.



When I sit, I keep my feet on the floor and do not put them on the seat in front of me. Many people will come into the theatre and locate their seats while I wait for the show to begin.



The lights dim when the show is ready to start. If the sounds of the show or people coming in late are too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.

I stay in my seat during the show if I can. If I need to use the bathroom or go to the Take-a-Break space I can.

If I have a question, I will ask it very quietly.

If I need to use any calming tools I brought with me, I can do so in the theater.



After each song, the audience may clap and cheer for the musicians. If I am not sure when to clap, I can wait for other people to clap and then join in.

If the clapping is too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.



At the end of the show, the musicians will bow to thank the audience for coming to see them. The audience will clap and cheer for them. If the clapping is too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.



After the musicians have left the stage, we will stand up and leave the auditorium. This may take a few minutes, as there are lots of people leaving at the same time. It is OK to wait in my seat as others leave.



I will leave the Auditorium and the Center for the Arts the same way I came in. I can talk about the show with my family and friends when it is done and we are leaving.



Holiday Pops is a concert performed by the musicians of the Midland Symphony Orchestra. An orchestra is a group of people that play many different instruments together to create music.



I will also see people singing together in a choir during the concert.



This show has different styles of music, some of which I may like or may not like. If I don't enjoy a particular song, I just need to wait a few minutes for the next one.



I will hear different types of instruments during the concert.

Some of the instruments I will see and hear are:

Violin



Trumpet



Flute



Clarinet



Sleigh Bells



I will see the conductor, or the person who helps the musicians play the songs together, standing on stage with his back to the audience. The conductor of the Midland Symphony Orchestra is Bohuslav Rattay.



There will be a special guest singer. Her name is Ali Ewoldt. She will sing with the orchestra and the choir. She has been in many theater performances, including shows on Broadway in New York City!

