



## Social Story:

# Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater School Matinee Series

April 24, 2024

Presented by the  
Midland Center for the Arts



My class is going to watch a show called ***Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater*** at the Midland Center for the Arts.



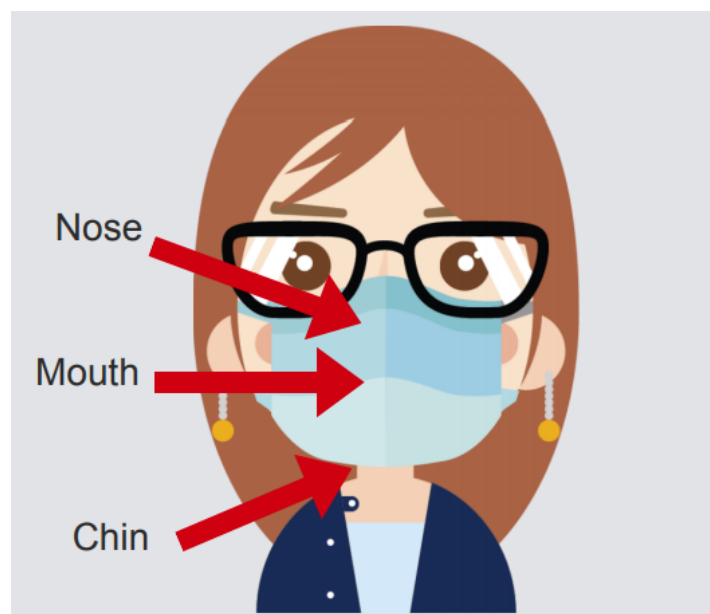
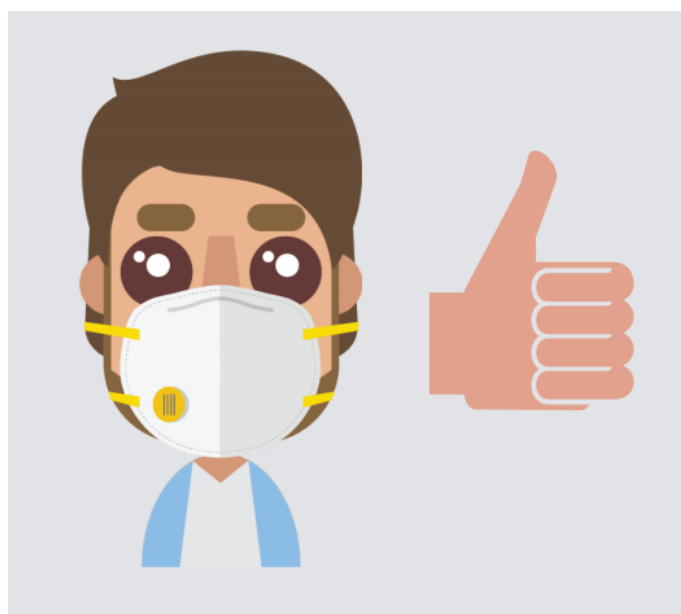
Midland Center for the Arts

This is the parking lot at the Midland Center for the Arts. We will get out of our car or bus 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 colds and illnesses.

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.

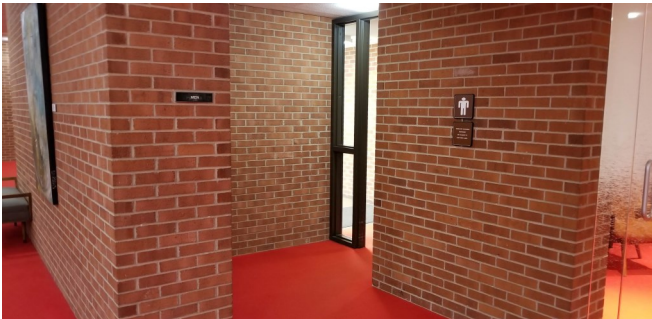


This is the Brick Lobby. We will look for a sign with our school name on it and wait with the usher with our sign to go through these glass doors.

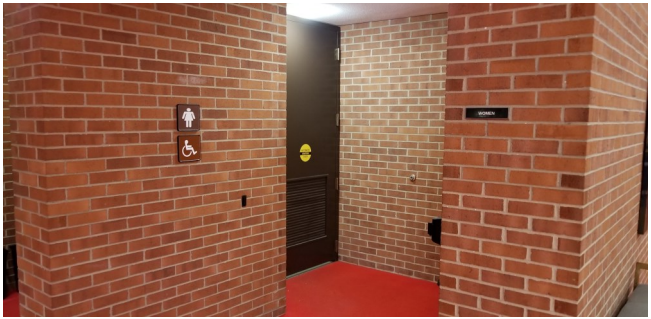




We will follow the usher with our sign into the Red Carpet Lobby. The carpet is red like an apple. There is artwork on the walls I can look at.



Men's restroom entrance to the left

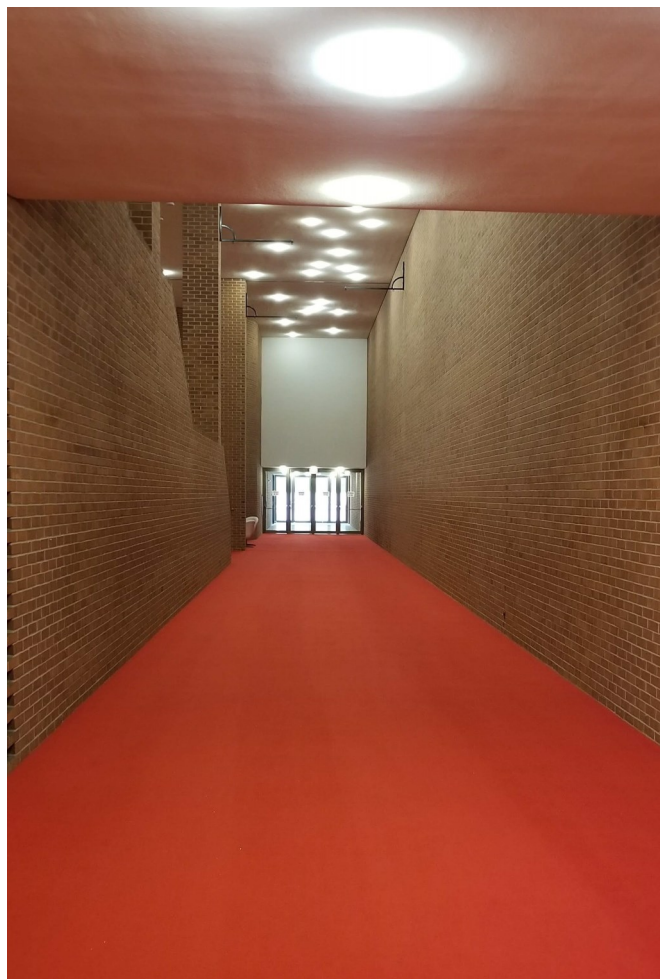


Women's restroom entrance to the right

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 follow our usher 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.

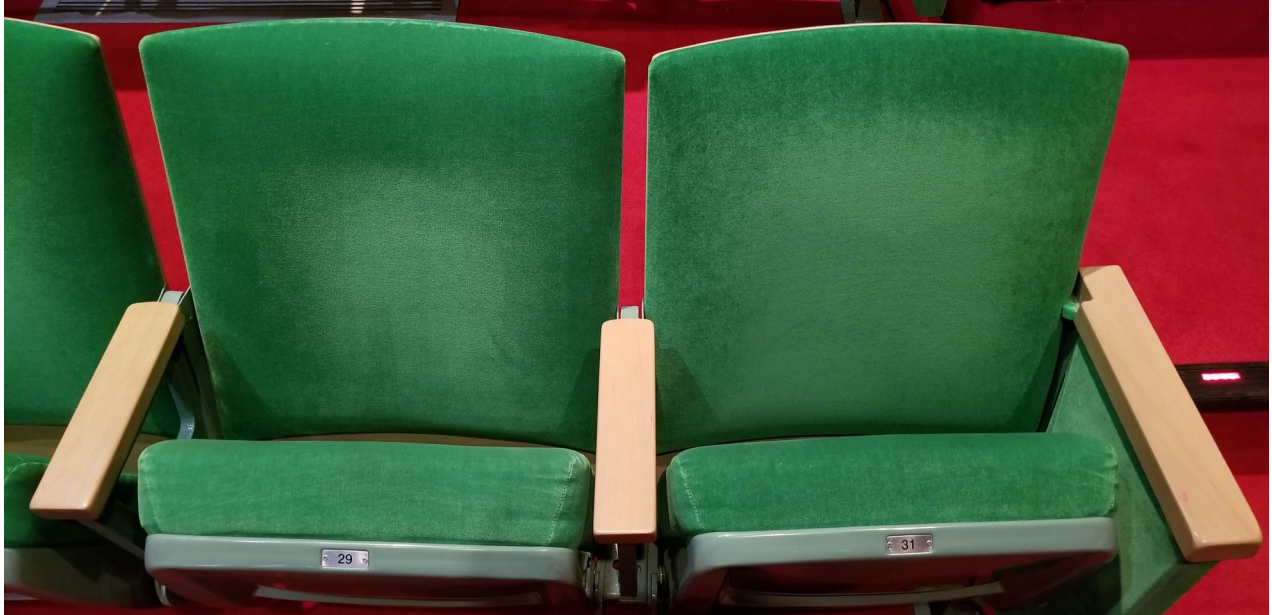


MIDLAND  
CENTER  
FOR THE  
ARTS

These are the seats. They are green like an apple! When I enter the theater, I will follow our usher to the rows of seats assigned to my class. I may have to walk up or down some stairs to find my row. I will not have an assigned seat for this show; I will sit where a teacher or chaperone tells me to sit.



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 have a question, I will ask it quietly.

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



*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater* is a contemporary dance ensemble. This means they mix many styles of dance together to tell a story.



These styles include ballet, jazz, tap, and traditional African dance.

Sometimes the dancers perform solos, or in small groups, or as a large group.

The dances will be different lengths. Some will be short, some may be longer. Each one tells a story. I can observe the music, lighting, costumes, and movement to help me understand the story.

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 or dance, I just need to wait a few minutes for the next one.

Many times the songs will not have words.



*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater* is from New York City. They traveled from New York to perform for us!

These dancers have many years of training and dancing is their full time job!



If I need to use the restroom during the performance, I can visit the restrooms in the lobby with an adult from my group.

If I need to take a break from the show, I can go out in the hallway and take a break with an adult from my group. I can go back inside whenever I am ready to.

After each part of the show, the audience may clap and cheer for the performers. 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 audience will clap and cheer for them. If the clapping is too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.



After the performers have left the stage, we will wait for our school name to be called so we can leave. 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. We will get back on our bus or in our cars to go back to school.

I can talk about the show with my classmates and teachers when it is done and we are leaving.



Thanks for coming to see  
*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater!*