PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT: A CHRISTMAS CAROL
Welcome!

Welcome to BETC’s visual story for coming to our theatre. It is designed to help you understand more about what will happen when you come to see the play. We’ll take you on a step-by-step journey through your experience at the theatre.

This guide is geared toward those on the autism spectrum, with sensory and communication disorders, people with learning and/or developmental delays or disabilities, or anyone who may find the benefit from a more relaxed theatre environment.

Table of Contents

1. Welcome!
2. The Dairy Arts Center
3. Box Office and Will-Call
4. Lobby, Café, and Art Galleries
5. Grace Gamm Theater
6. Finding Your Seat
7. During the Show
8. After the Show
9. Restrooms
10. Dairy Floor Plan
11. Fact Sheet
The Dairy Arts Center

The Dairy is located at 2590 Walnut Street in Boulder. Due to construction, the Dairy’s only public entrance is from the front of the building on 26th Street (pictured to the right).

There is limited parking directly behind the building. More parking is located across Walnut Street. Parking behind the 2501, 2503, and 2505 Walnut Street buildings is available Monday – Friday evenings and all day on Saturdays and Sundays. Any spot, whether it says Visitor or Reserved, is available for Dairy patrons. ADA parking spots are available, with walkway and ramp access into the building.
Box Office and Will Call

When you come through the front doors of the Dairy Arts Center, the box office will be right in front of you.

If you have already bought your tickets before coming to the theatre, you can pick them up here at Will Call. The person behind the desk will give you your tickets. Only the person who purchased the tickets needs to give their name to the staff person.

If you would like to buy tickets here, the box office staff person will help you purchase your tickets. Every person who goes into the theatre must have a ticket.
Lobby, Café, and Art Galleries

Just up the stairs or ramp from the box office is the main lobby. There are four art galleries in the Dairy, and all are free to the public. The art changes frequently so there are always new artworks to discover. People often wait here to see films, dance, and theatre shows.

On your left as you enter the lobby is the Polk Café. You can buy beverages and some snack foods from the staff there. It is usually open before and after every performance. You can take drinks into the theatre with you, but you can’t bring food in with you. You can sit in the Lobby to eat if you are hungry.
Grace Gamm Theater

You may need to wait for the performance to begin. The doors to the theatre will open twenty minutes before the performance starts. While you are waiting, you will see ushers who work with BETC. Their job is to help you with questions about the performance, the building, or your seats. Please speak to them if you have any questions.

When it is time to take your seats, an usher will open the doors to the theater, which are next to the Café. An usher will need to check your ticket as you go into the theater. They will use a scanner, then give your ticket back to you. Another usher will be inside the theater to help you find your seat.
Finding Your Seat

The Grace Gamm Theater can seat 110 people. Your ticket will show your assigned seat. Every row of seats has a letter, and every seat has a number. Once an usher helps you find your seat, you may need to stand to allow other people to get to their seats.

When the show is about to begin, you will see someone standing onstage. They will welcome you to the theatre, and give you some information about the performance. After this the show will start. The lights will dim for the audience and the lights on the stage will be brighter. You may hear music in the beginning before the actors come onstage and begin to speak.
During the Show

During the play, you will see the actors come on and off the stage to tell the story. The lights will go on and off, and there will be music and sounds as well as talking. The actors will be portraying a lot of emotions, but they are pretending.

The play will run about 90 minutes from beginning to end. There is no intermission.

If during the play you find the performance to be overwhelming, you can leave through the same doors where you came in. Outside the theatre there will be a “Chill-Out Zone” in the Lobby where you can relax. When you feel like returning to the theatre, you can come back in. You can ask an usher to help.
After the Show

At the end of the show, people will clap to show that they liked the show. If you liked the show, you can show appreciation by clapping.

Then the ushers will open the doors, and you will leave the theatre. Outside the theatre, there will be a survey for you to complete if you would like. It will ask you about how you felt while you were seeing the show, and if you had a good time at BETC. Then you can meet the actors in the Lobby.
Restrooms

To get to the restrooms from the theater, go back into the Lobby area. If you face the Gordon Gamm Theater in the Lobby, the women’s restroom is down the hallway on the left of the theatre, and the men’s restroom is down the hallway on the right of the theatre. There is a gender-neutral bathroom near the box office down the hallway to the right. You can ask a BETC staff person or a box office person for directions if you need help.
Fact Sheet

For more information about the Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company’s relaxed performances, please contact:

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Thank you for coming!