#### SOCIAL STORY A SOCIAL CONTEXT GUIDE FOR A THEATRE HORIZON EXPERIENCE

# INTRO

Welcome to our social story! A social story is a tool that accurately describes a context, skill, achievement, or concept.

We'd like to offer this visual and descriptive narrative to help guide you through a show at Theatre Horizon



#### **ENTRANCES**

I am going to Theatre Horizon to see a show.

I go to E. Penn Street and head towards the big teal awning marked "Main Entrance". I can use the front two steps to go through the front door. Or, I can use the ADA accessible ramp through the teal gate with the yellow handle.

There's a call box next to the door, but oftentimes I don't have to use it because the door is already open!



#### LOBBY

The lobby opens 1 hour before the show. I will enter the lobby and may have to wait before the show starts. Usually, there will be Theatre Horizon staff in the lobby that I can talk to about the show.

Usually, the lobby will have activities for me to participate in. I can learn more information about the show by reading the signs on the wall. I can also rest near a table, bench, or on the couch.

The lobby might be crowded and noisy. I can bring my own pair of noise canceling headphones or I can ask for a pair at the ticket table. They also have ear plugs, assisted listening devices, and a fidget library! I can always return to the lobby at any point during the show.



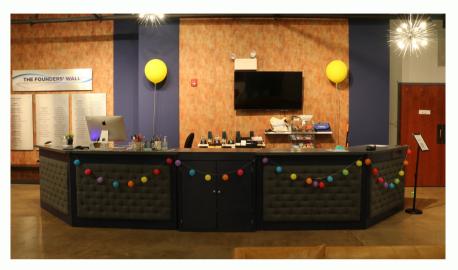
#### SOCIAL STORY A SOCIAL CONTEXT GUIDE FOR A THEATRE HORIZON EXPERIENCE

#### TICKETS

I will need a ticket to see the show.

When it's my turn, I can talk to the staff member behind the counter about my tickets, and ask any questions I may have about the show.

Once I have my tickets, I can get my tickets scanned at the double doors to the theatre. I may have to wait in line to get the ticket scanned. I can go through the door towards the right of the concession stand. There are steps at this entrance. Or, I can use the doors on the left side of the ticket desk. There are no steps through this entrance.



## CONCESSIONS

If I want to buy any snacks for the show, I can stop by the concessions stand.

I can talk to the person behind the counter about what I want and ask any questions I might have about concessions. The person behind the counter will get my concessions for me and tell me how much they cost. I can pay for my concessions with cash, card, or though electronic payments on your phone.

If I'd like water, I can use the water cooler next to the concession stand. It has cups attached to it for me to fill with hot or cold water. I can consume my food and drinks either in the lobby or in the theatre when I go to see the show. I can also bring my own concessions from home to consume.



#### SOCIAL STORY A SOCIAL CONTEXT GUIDE FOR A THEATRE HORIZON EXPERIENCE

## BATHROOMS

I can get to the bathrooms from the lobby.

There are 4 ADA accessible bathrooms next to the double doors on the right of the concession stand.

I can go to the bathroom anytime before, during, or after the show.



### **COMMUNITY CORNER**

I can visit the Community Corner in the Theatre Horizon Lobby.

This is a space where I can sit, relax, and read plays if I want to. Sometimes, there are flyers, posters, and brochures on display. I can collect information about organizations and events in the Norristown community.



## **CHILL ZONE**

If I need a break from the show, I can go to the Chill zone.

I can always ask a staff member who is wearing a name tag, to show me where it is ahead of time.

I can wear my headphones and use the fidgets in the space until I feel ready to return back to the show.



#### SOCIAL STORY A SOCIAL CONTEXT GUIDE FOR A THEATRE HORIZON EXPERIENCE

## THE THEATRE

I will enter the theatre when I am ready to see the show.

If I have trouble finding my seat, I can always find someone who works at Theatre Horizon to ask for help. Usually, the staff is wearing black and has a name tag on.

When the show is about to begin, there will be an announcement. Someone from Theatre Horizon will tell the audience more about the show and what to expect. This is called a curtain speech.

### **CLAPPING & EXPRESSION**

The audience may clap during the show. I can clap if I like what I see or hear.

I might hear people express themselves verbally during the show. Some people may "ooo", "ahhh", and \*gasp\* when they see or hear something exciting, or unexpected. I too can express myself freely in response to the show.

If there's too much noise, I can always use my headphones, earplugs, or fidgets to help me regulate. Or I can go to the chill zone!

### END OF PLAY

Usually, when the show is over, all the performing artists will come on the stage and bow.

This is called a curtain call.

Many people in the audience will clap and cheer to let the actors know how much they appreciated the show. I can freely express my appreciation however I'd like.







#### SOCIAL STORY A SOCIAL CONTEXT GUIDE FOR A THEATRE HORIZON EXPERIENCE

## LEAVING THE THEATRE

When the show is over, I will leave the theatre, and return to the lobby with the rest of the audience.

The lobby may be crowded after the show. Sometimes people will gather in the lobby to talk about their experience. I can talk to the staff and sometimes the actors about my experience.

I may have to wait my turn to leave the theatre and the lobby. I should remember to return any tools I picked up before the show.



### **AFTER THE SHOW**

After the show I can share my thoughts about my experience at Theatre Horizon.

I can tell a friend, share my thoughts on social media, or even come back to see another show.

If I want to learn more about Theatre Horizon, upcoming performances, and educational opportunities, I can visit the website at <u>www.theatrehorizon.org</u>, or I can call "610-283-2230 x1"

## THANK YOU

Thank you for reading! We hope to see you soon!



