

# DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER



## Theater Social Story

What happens when you visit the Dougherty Arts Center Theater?



I am going to see a performance at the Dougherty Arts Center Theater. When I get there, I will walk through the front doors into the main gallery.



The theater entrance is in the gallery. I may be asked to purchase a ticket, or sign in to see the performance. I may have to wait in line.



When I have my ticket, or I have signed in, I can look at the art in the gallery, or I can sit on a bench and wait.



There may be food or drinks available. Sometimes the food is free, and sometimes it costs money. If I wish, I can have some food or drinks in the gallery before the show.



If I need to use the restroom, I will walk down a gallery that is also a hallway. I will turn left at the end of the hallway. When I am finished using the restroom, I will walk back down that hallway to the main gallery.



When the theater doors open, that means it is time to enter and sit down. I may have to wait in line to enter the theater. It may be crowded and loud. I can use ear protection or cover my ears if the sounds are too loud.



A person may hand me a program, with information related to the show, when I enter the theater. I can read this while I am waiting. I can sit in any seat that is available. Many people will come into the theater and I may need to stand up to let someone pass me.





The lights will dim when the show is ready to start. The main aisles leading to the exit will remain on so that I can leave if I need to. I may hear announcements or music. If the show sounds are too loud, I can use ear protection or cover my ears.



I stay quiet in my seat during the show. If I have a question, I will ask it after the show is over. I can clap at the end of a performance or song.



If I need to take a break, I can go back to the gallery, or I can ask the staff at the front desk where the designated Quiet Room is located. If I need to leave the show, I walk quietly out of the theater.



When the show is over I can clap and cheer when the actors come out on stage, if I want to. Other people will be clapping and cheering. If the clapping and cheering is too loud, I can wear ear protection or cover my ears.



When the actors leave the stage, I can exit the theater and go into the gallery. I can also remain in my seat until the crowd has exited and then walk into the gallery. It is my choice. I can talk about the show as soon as it is over.



I will walk out of the Dougherty Arts Center the same way I came in.