



# DPAC

DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

## Discover your inner elf.



The Broadway Musical



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# Social Narrative

For the Autism-Friendly Performance of Elf the Broadway Musical





I am going to see **Elf the Broadway Musical** at DPAC!

I am going with \_\_\_\_\_ to see a Broadway musical at Durham Performing Arts Center. A musical is a live play with singing, dancing and music played live by musicians. Seeing a show is a little like seeing something on TV, or seeing a movie. But the people in a show are right there on the stage. They are called actors.



Elf the Musical is a special kind of show. The actors will tell a story by talking, singing and dancing.



Elf the Broadway Musical is at DPAC in downtown Durham. We may travel to DPAC by car, bus or taxi. My family knows how we will get there.



If we travel by car, I might get dropped off in front of the theater.  
Or, we might park in a big parking garage and take a short walk to the theater.



If we travel by bus, we may get dropped off a couple of blocks away.



If we travel by taxi, we may be dropped off near the front of DPAC.



When I get to DPAC, I will see big signs that say **Elf the Broadway Musical**. They will look like this:



We may have to stand in line to get into the theater. I will see a lot of people of all ages. I will stand nice and quiet while we wait. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones, or ask an adult for help.



We will go inside the building and show our tickets to a person who will scan them with a small machine that looks kind of like a phone but it is not.



Our seats will be in a place called the **Orchestra**, the **Grand Tier** or the **Balcony**. Our tickets will tell us where we are going to sit.

When we get inside the lobby, we will go up the stairs or walk straight ahead. There is an elevator if we need it. There will be friendly staff members waiting inside, and they can tell us where we need to go if we want help.



After we enter DPAC, a staff member will also give us Playbills. Playbills are books that tell you about the people who worked to make the show. Playbills have pictures of the actors and tell you the names of the songs you will hear in the show.



Before we find our seats, we can go to the restroom if we need to. There are restrooms in every lobby at DPAC. If I need to use the restroom, I can ask.



If I need a drink of water, I can ask for one. There are water fountains in the lobbies too. If we need help finding the water fountains, we can ask the friendly DPAC staff.



DPAC also has Food and Beverage stands in the lobbies. If we want to, we can go there to buy a snack or drink.



I can sit and rest with my family in the lobbies if we want to. Other groups will do this too.



When it is time to go inside the theater, we can look at our tickets to know where to go. We can also ask one of the friendly DPAC staff members for help so we know where to go.



The theater is very big. There are a lot of seats! A person called an usher will look at our tickets and tell us which seats to go to. The numbers on the tickets will tell us where we will sit. It is not a choice.



When we get to our seats, I will sit down nicely. I can sit in a booster seat if I need one to see the show better. We can ask one of the friendly ushers for a booster seat if we need to.



When it is time for the show to start, the theater will get a little bit darker, but not too dark. This means it is time to get quiet. I will try to be as quiet as I can during the show so that I can hear everything.



When the show starts, I will hear an actor start to sing or speak. If it is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones, or ask an adult for help.



It is important that I stay in my seat during the show. If I ever feel afraid or nervous, I can cover my ears, play with a fidget or ask an adult for help. I know that the singing can be loud and it might a little scary for me. I will try to remember that none of the noises can hurt me.



If it is still too loud, I can let my family or group know that I need a break. We can go to one of the quiet areas located in the lobby.



If I do need to go to a quiet area, I am allowed to return to my seat to watch the show when I am ready.

After each song, some people will clap. Clapping is nice because it tells the actors that you liked the song. If I want to clap, I can. I do not have to clap if I do not want to.



If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, put on my headphones or ask an adult for help. I know that even though the clapping can be loud and might feel scary, none of the noises can hurt me.



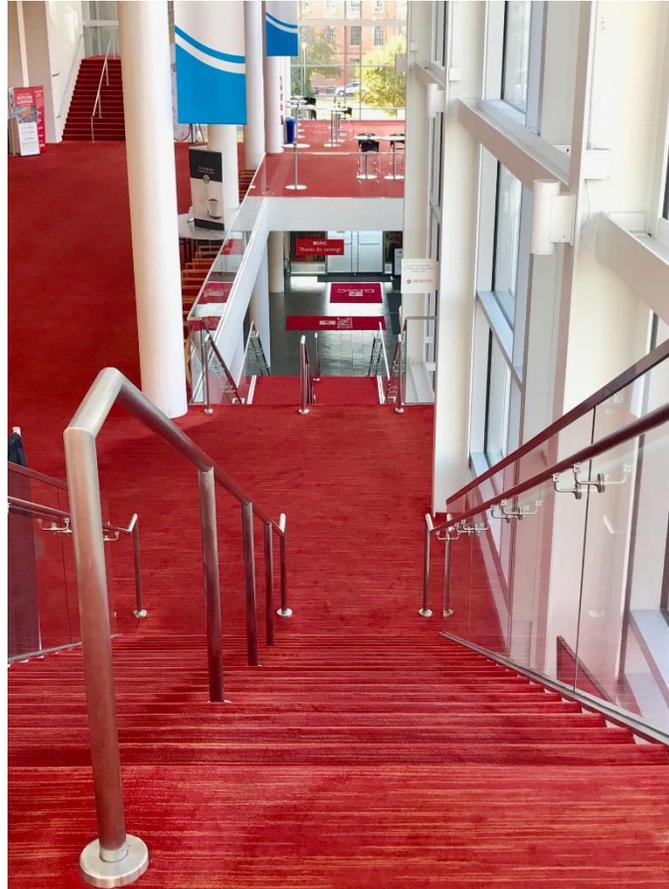
At the end of the show, all of the actors will come on the stage together to take a bow. This is called a curtain call. Many people will clap so the actors know how much they liked the show.



When people really like a show, they sometimes stand up and cheer. This is called a standing ovation. If I want to clap, cheer or give a standing ovation, I can!



When the show is over, it is time to leave DPAC. I will go out of the building the same way that I went in. We will probably need to go down some stairs.



I am very excited to go see **Elf the Broadway Musical** at DPAC!

