I AM GOING TO THE BENEDUM THEATER TO SEE A BALLET

~ PRE-VISIT STORIES ~

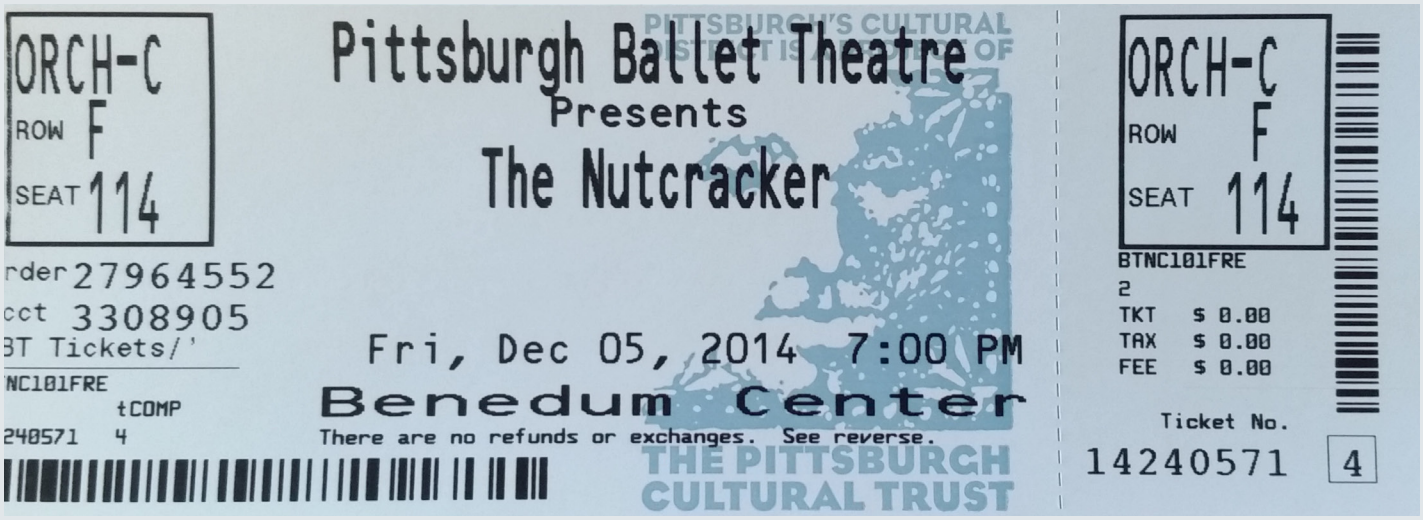
PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

theater

I am going to see the Nutcracker Ballet.

A ballet tells a story through dancing.

I am going to see The Nutcracker ballet.



SAMPLE TICKET

usher/tickets

The theater usher is a friendly helper.

I will give my ticket to the theater usher to enter the theater.

The ushers help me and my family find our seats.

If I need help I can ask the usher.

crowds

Many people will be at the theater to see the show.

The theater and theater lobby may be crowded.

I can go to the quiet rooms at the theater if I want to get away from the crowds.

I can also stay close to my mom or dad if I don't like the crowds.

break area

I will tell my mom or dad if I need quiet time.

I can leave the show and go to the break area.

I can relax in the break area or walk around the lobby.

waiting

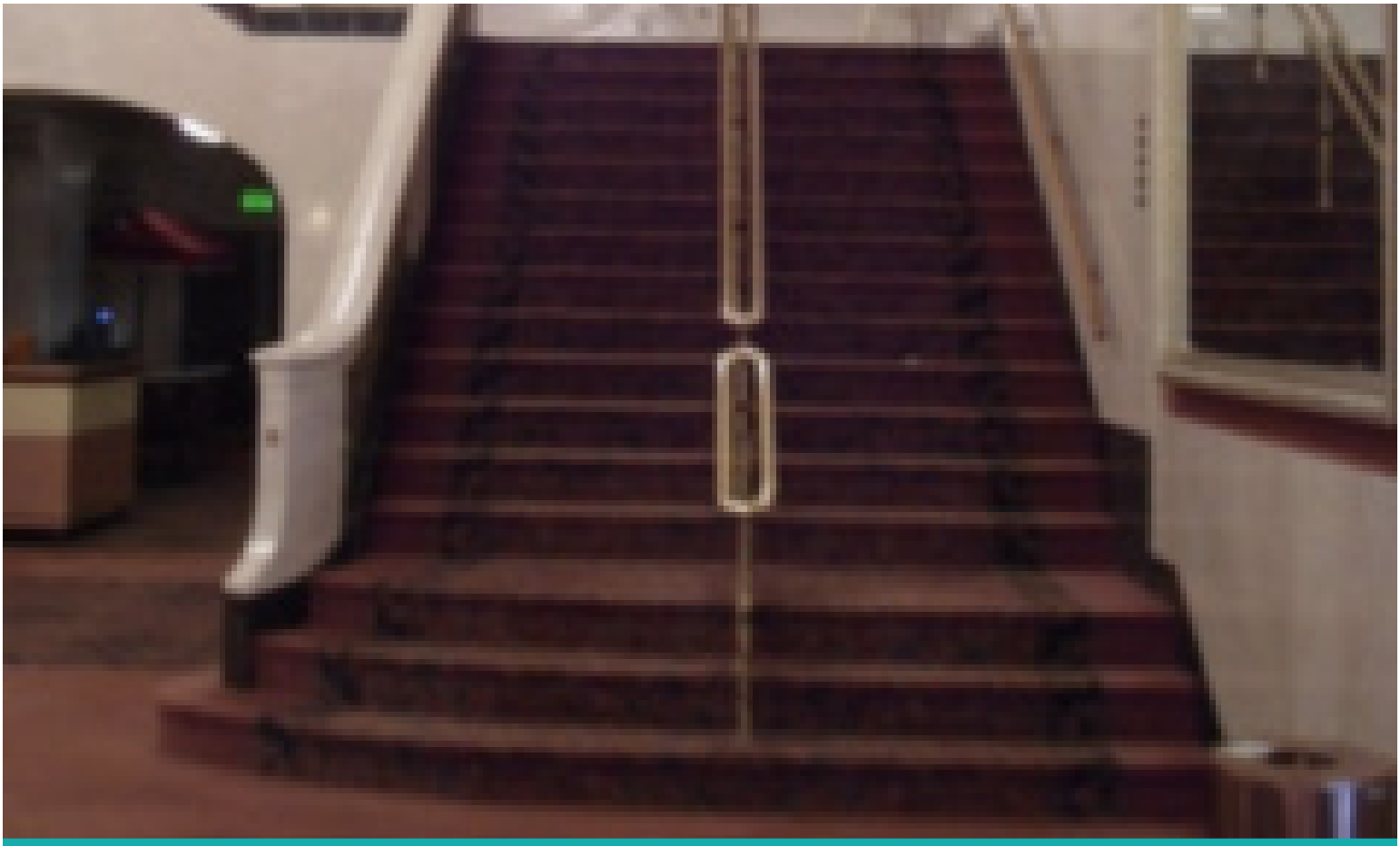
When I go to the theater, I may have to wait in lines.

I may have to wait in line to get into the theater.

I may have to wait in line to get to my seat.

I may have to wait in line in the bathroom.

I may have to wait in line many times.



stairs

I will be careful when I walk down the stairs to get to my seat.

I can hold onto the railing when I walk down the stairs.

sitting

When I am sitting, sometimes a person will walk in front of me.

If a person is in my way to see the show, I can quietly ask the person “Can you please move out of my way? Thank you.”

bathroom

I will let my mom or dad know if I have to go to the bathroom.

I can go to the bathroom any time I need to.

The sound of the flushing toilet can be loud.

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Sensory-Friendly Performances

PBT began sensory-friendly performances of The Nutcracker and other popular story ballets during the 2013-14 seasons in order to create a welcoming, supportive environment for people of all abilities and their families to enjoy the beauty, splendor, and excitement of a live ballet performance.

The inaugural performance in 2013 was directed and coordinated by:

Terrence S. Orr
Artistic Director

Harris Ferris
Executive Director

Alyssa Herzog Melby
Director of Education and Community Engagement

Jillian Brinberg
Project Manager

Consultants
Luciana Randall
Autism Connection of PA
Executive Director

Roger I. Ideishi, JD, OT/L, FAOTA
Program Director & Associate Professor
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
Program in Occupational Therapy
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Special gratitude to:
The dancers and production staff of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre
The students and staff of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School
The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and the Benedum Center for Performing Arts

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A special thank you to the following sponsors of the inaugural performance of The Nutcracker in 2013:

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FISA Foundation

PBT also thanks all new sponsors and donors who have helped us continue the sensory-friendly performances into 2014-15 and beyond!