

Russian Renaissance Sensory Friendly Open Rehearsal Social Story & Resource Guide

I'm going to hear Russian Renaissance play music!



I will go to Rackham Auditorium to hear them play music. Rackham Auditorium is a building on the University of Michigan campus.

I will get there by riding in a car. We might park in a parking garage. After we park, we will take a short walk to Rackham Auditorium. The companions with me will know how to get to Rackham Auditorium.

When we get there, the outside of the building will look like this photo!



When we enter the building, we'll walk through the Lobby on our way to the rehearsal. The lobby might have more people in it, but it will look like this:



Once we're in the lobby, we may have to stand in a line while we wait to enter the room where the musicians will play music. If I have to stay in line, I will stay with my family or group and calmly wait for my turn.

If I need to, I can use the bathroom or get a drink of water before the rehearsal. Sometimes the toilets or hand dryers in the bathroom can be a bit noisy. If I want to, I can put my hands over my ears or take five deep breaths to help with the noise.

Here are pictures of some of the UMS staff you might see working at the show: Victoria, Christina, Jeff, and Adam.



When it's our turn to enter the room where the musicians will play music I'll see a big stage with lots of chairs around it. It will look like this:



Once we're in the room, we will find a seat. The seats will look like this:



Other people will be finding their seats, too. They might accidentally touch or bump into me while they walk by. This is OK, and I will not get hurt.

There may be other people that I don't know sitting near me. That is OK too. We will watch the show together!

If I am nervous, I can squeeze or hold my companion's hand.

When it is time for the musicians to play their music, the room will get quiet. I will try to be quiet during the show so I can hear the music and so that others can hear, too.

I will see four musicians walk out onto the stage, and they will begin playing music with their instruments. If it is too loud, I can wear my earplugs or put my hands over my ears.

Sometimes during the rehearsal, the musicians might stand up and talk to us from the stage.

Here are some pictures of the musicians that will be playing music and speaking to us from the stage: Ivan, Anastasia, Alexander, and Ivan.



If I feel afraid during the rehearsal, I can squeeze my fidget, hold my companion's hand, or give my companion a hug. If I need to, I can go out to a quiet room in the lobby to take a break. One of the ushers will show my companion and me how to get there. When I feel better, I can come back into the theater and listen to more music.

At the end of the rehearsal, the musicians will bow, and some people in the audience will clap their hands. Clapping our hands tells the musicians that we liked their music. I can clap, too, if I want, but I don't have to. If it is too loud, I can wear my earplugs or put my hands over my ears.

After the rehearsal, I will walk out into the lobby. It may be crowded, and I will have to wait for my turn to leave. People might accidentally touch or bump into me while they walk by. This is OK, and I will not get hurt. If I am afraid, I can hold my companion's hand or take five deep breaths.



We will then leave Rackham Auditorium.

I am excited to go hear the Russian Renaissance play music!

UMS would like to thank the staff at Hartford Stage for allowing us to adapt the materials they created for their sensory-friendly performances.