

SEATTLE OPERA SOCIAL STORY FOR *MONKEY AND FRANCINE IN THE CITY OF TIGERS*



I AM GOING TO SEE AN OPERA!

This story explains in words and pictures what you will experience when you come to see an opera. We hope you enjoy the show!

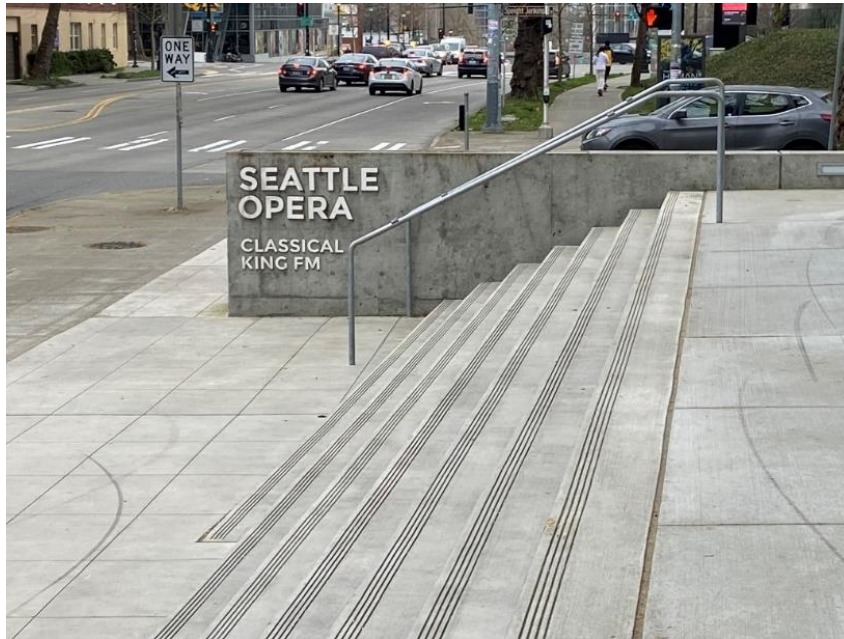
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Opera Center	3
Arriving	4
The Lobby	5
The Relaxation Room	6
The Restroom	7
Entering the Theater	8
My Seat	9
The Stage	10
The Show Begins	11
The Show Ends	13
Leaving the Building	14

THE OPERA CENTER



I am going to Seattle Opera to see an opera.

The building where the opera takes place is called the Opera Center.

An opera is a way of telling a story with people singing and acting on a stage.

Those people are called opera singers.

The singing and acting is performed with live music.

The people who play the music are called musicians.

ARRIVING



My family will receive our tickets in an email when we buy them, or we will pick them up from will call at the ticket office.

Every person must have a ticket to get into the opera.

When we arrive at the Opera Center, we will enter the building through the lobby doors.

While Seattle Opera still encourages people coming to the opera to wear a face mask, I do not have to if I don't want to. There will be both adult and child sized masks available in the lobby.

THE LOBBY



The lobby is a big room where we can wait before we go to sit in the theater. There will be lots of fun activities in the lobby before and after the show like crafts, costume try-on, and games.

If I look down, I will see a shiny floor. If I look up, I will see a high ceiling. There are lots of windows.

The theater is where the opera takes place.

It may be loud and crowded in the lobby with many people waiting to see the show. If I don't like the noise or the crowd, I can find a quiet spot to wait.

THE RELAXATION ROOM



There is a door in the lobby leading to a relaxation room where I can visit whenever I need to take a break.

If I look on the floor, I will see pink arrows leading to the relaxation room.

I will tell an adult if I need to use the relaxation room. There may be other kids and adults in the relaxation room too.

If I need to take a break during the show, I can follow the pink arrows and go to the relaxation room with an adult.

THE RESTROOMS



Main restroom



Gender Neutral Bathroom

The restrooms are near the lobby, down a hallway with a big, red stripe on the wall.

I can tell an adult in my group if I need to use the restroom at any time, even if I need to leave the theater during the opera.

In the restroom there are bright lights and soft music.

I will follow the yellow arrows to get to the restrooms.

If the main restrooms are too loud or bright, there is a gender-neutral restroom next to the elevators that I can use that is smaller and only allows one group in at a time.

SEATTLE OPERA.

ENTERING THE THEATER



When it is time, I can enter the theater with my group. The theater is where the performance takes place.

If I would like to borrow noise reducing headphones, there are some available to borrow from the front desk under the big Seattle Opera sign shown above.

There will be blue arrows on the floor pointing the way to the theater.

The theater is a very big room with a very high ceiling.

There are lots of stairs leading to many rows of seats.

MY SEAT



My seat in the theater will be part of a row of seats.

My ticket has my seat number on it. A person called an usher can help me find my seat.

My seat may be close to the stage or far from the stage. My seat will always be with my group.

I might have my group on one side of me and a person I don't know on the other side of me.

If I have a tablet with me to use during the opera, my group will sit in the back row of the theater. If I want to listen to sound on my tablet, I need to use headphones and ear buds.

If I need to get up and move around during the opera that is okay. There is a row of seats where I can stand and move and still watch the opera.

THE STAGE



The front of the room where the opera singers perform is called the stage.

Before the show begins, there will be a set and a piano onstage. A set is a structure that tells the audience where the story takes place.

I will wait in my seat for the show start and opera singers to appear on stage.

While I wait, I can look at the set, or talk to people in my group.

THE SHOW BEGINS



I will know the opera is about to begin when a person makes some announcements using a microphone.

The lights in the theater may dim, but they won't go out completely

Before the singing starts, some of the opera singers will come out and teach the audience music and movements from the show. If I want to, I can sing and move along with them, but I don't have to.

Then the opera singers will enter the stage and begin to tell their story through songs and music.

During the opera, the words to the opera will be projected above the stage as supertitles.

SEATTLE OPERA.

During the opera, sometimes people clap for a short amount of time after a song. If the clapping is too loud for me, I can cover my ears with my hands.

THE SHOW ENDS



At the end of the opera people usually clap for the opera singers. If I liked the opera, I can clap too.

After the opera, the opera singers will return to the stage to answer questions from the audience. If I have a question, I can raise my hand. I will wait for my turn to ask my question.

If I don't have a question, and don't want to hear other people's questions, I can leave quietly with my group.

The stairs may be crowded. I will walk slowly and carefully on them, and out of the theater.

LEAVING THE BUILDING



After the opera is over, it will be time to leave the theater. My group and I are welcome to visit the activities in the lobby before we leave the building.

Then, my group and I will walk outside through the glass doors.

I may feel really excited after the opera.

After we leave, I can talk about the opera with my group.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE OPERA SOON!