Going to the South Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center
A Social Narrative

I am going to see a performance at the South Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center.
There are different ways to get there.

I could travel on a bus, by car or by public transportation. My family, teachers, or caretakers will help me get there safely.

If I travel by bus, the bus will drop me off at the front of the building with my group.
An usher will come to greet my group and help us while we are visiting the South Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center.
Ushers are there to help us and answer our questions.
If I travel by car, I can park in a parking lot nearby.

There is a parking lot very close to the entrance and there is a parking lot across the street.
Once we park and get out of the car, I will listen to my caretakers’ instructions since there will be other cars trying to park as well.

If I park across the street, I will use the crosswalk to stay safe.
I will walk through the glass doors to enter the lobby.

There may be lots of people outside the center, I may have to be patient and wait in line.
Once I enter the lobby, an usher may scan my ticket.
There will be a building attendant doing a bag check.

The building attendant will check people’s bags as they enter the theater to make sure they are not bringing in anything that is not allowed.
Sometimes, the lobby can be too loud. If that happens, I can cover my ears, or I can ask an usher to borrow a headset.

I can use a headset during the performance too.
There are different ways to get to my seat.

I could use the stairs or take the elevator.
An usher will guide me to my seat in the theater.
The theater may have lots of people inside who are there to watch the performance, like me.
Before the show begins, there will be an announcement. Sometimes a person will do a curtain speech.

They will welcome me and prepare me for the performance.
Once the performance begins, it will get dark and people will get quiet.
A performance at the South Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center may include dance, music, and/or theater.

During the performance, people may laugh or clap. I can laugh or clap too. The people who perform will be on stage. But I may not get on stage unless a performer picks me as a volunteer.
Sometimes, they will perform in the aisles, next to where I will sit. They may dance or sing. They may play pretend and be somebody else in a story.

It might be too loud in the theater. If that happens, I can cover my ears or use a headset.
I can also ask my caretaker to leave the theater with me and we can watch the performance on the screens outside the theater doors.
If I need to use the restroom during a performance, I can let my caretaker know and an usher can tell us where the nearest restroom is.
There may be an intermission which is a small break during the show. I can also get a drink or snack during this time.

I can use the restroom during this time too.
Once the performance is over, people may clap or wave their hands a lot and be loud.

This is how the audience says thank you to the artists, but I do not have to clap if I do not want to. I can also cover my ears or use a headset if it’s too loud.
Sometimes, performers will answer questions from the audience after the performance.

I can listen, I can ask a question, or I can leave the theater with my caretaker if I need a break.
Once the performance is over, we will leave the Center.