

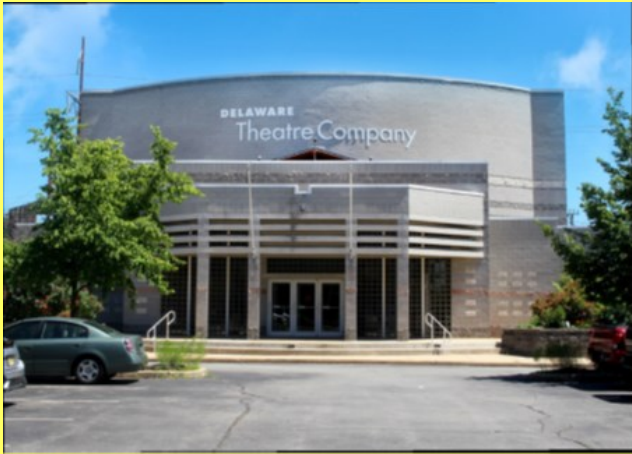
going to the



DELAWARE
THEATRE
COMPANY

Relaxed Performance Pre-Visit Stories

PLAID TIDINGS



I am going to see a show at Delaware Theatre Company. It is at 200 Water Street in Wilmington, Delaware.



Parking is free at the theatre. If the theatre's lot is full, there is free parking next door at 101 Avenue of the Arts. It is a two-minute walk from that lot to the theatre.



This is the front porch of the theatre. I will go in these doors.



When I go inside, I will be in the lobby of the theatre. It may be crowded. I can look up or look at the decorations if I do not want to look at lots of people.



The Box Office is a good place to get a ticket if I need one. I can also find helpful people at the Box Office who can answer my questions.



I will go up a hallway to get to the inside of the theatre. I can take a program—a little booklet that names the people who worked on the show— from the table or from the usher.



When I go inside the theatre, I will see a lot of seats and the stage where the play will be performed. I will sit in the seat number that matches my ticket.



I can play with fidgets during the performance to make me feel more comfortable. I can wear headphones or ear plugs during the show if it is too loud.



There are bathrooms at the theatre. I can go to the bathroom when I need to go. The soap and water come out when I move my hand under the nozzles.



The show I am seeing is called *Plaid Tidings*. This is what the stage will look like.



This show is a musical, which is a story with music told by people on the stage. The people in the musical are called actors. The actors pretend to be characters during the show. These characters' names are Frankie, Sparky, Jinx, and Smudge.



In the story, Frankie, Sparky, Jinx, and Smudge are young men who wanted to be singers on TV a long time ago. But they never got to be on TV before they died. In real life, the actors are alive, and are just pretending that they died.



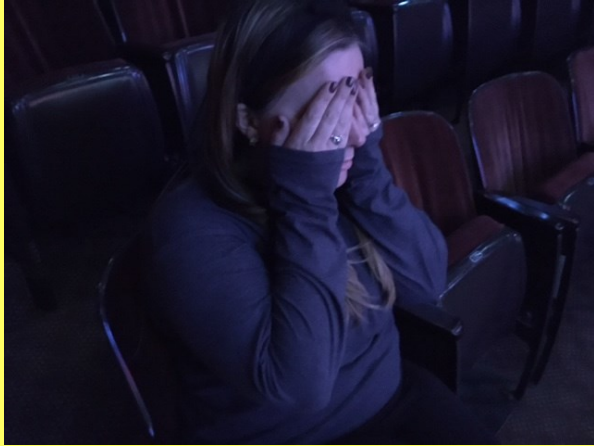
In the story, Frankie, Sparky, Jinx, and Smudge are like angels who are finally getting a chance to do their show. They work hard to get everything right for their show.



They sing and dance. Sometimes they try to be funny. Sometimes they want to be serious. But they always want the audience to enjoy their performance.



Sometimes there is a loud noise that sounds like thunder. This is not real thunder. This is a sound effect. I can cover my ears if I do not like the sound.



The lights will flash like lightning sometimes. It is not real lightning. But if I don't like it, I can cover my eyes or step out for a little while if I need to.



I might see or smell smoke. Sometimes the air will look or smell smoky. I am safe. The smoke I see or smell is not from a dangerous fire. I can leave the theatre for a little while if I don't like the smoke.



In the middle of the show, the story will stop and the actors will leave the stage. This is called "intermission." It is time for a break for everyone. I can go to the bathroom or get a snack if I want to. Snacks at the concession stand cost money. I can also eat a snack that I brought myself.



After intermission is over, the actors will come back onto the stage for more singing and dancing. It is time for me to be back at my seat to enjoy the rest of the show.



There are a few times when the actors will talk to people in the audience. And someone from the audience will be invited to go on the stage with them to play the bells. Unless they invite me onstage and I choose to go, I will watch this part from my seat like most of the audience.



The characters of Frankie, Sparky, Jinx, and Smudge find out they did a great job, and they are happy. It starts to look like it is snowing on-stage, but this is just pretend snow that feels a little like paper.



People will clap during and at the end of the play. I can clap if I like what I see or hear. People clap for a short time. I can cover my ears if the clapping is too loud.



During the show, I can go to the gallery, which is a room next to the lobby, if I am feeling overwhelmed. It will be quiet there.



When the show is over, I will leave the theatre. The lobby may be crowded after the show. I may have to wait my turn to leave the lobby and the theatre. I can keep my program as a souvenir.



Thank you for coming to Delaware Theatre Company!



PLAID TIDINGS

by Stuart Ross

Original *Forever Plaid* Vocal and Musical Arrangements
by James Raitt

Vocal and Musical Arrangements by
James Raitt, Brad Ellis, Raymond Berg, & David Snyder

Directed by Matt Silva

NOVEMBER 30—DECEMBER 18, 2022

Relaxed Performance Social Story written by
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Photos by Matt Urban of NüPOINT Marketing and
Johanna Schloss of Delaware Theatre Company.