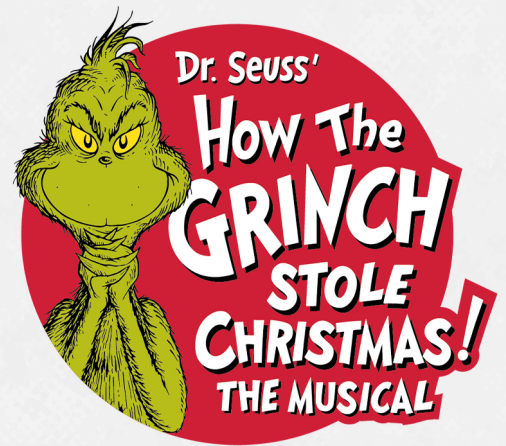




BLUMENTHAL
PERFORMING ARTS

WE ARE GOING TO SEE



We are going to see a musical at Belk Theater soon! A musical is a play with actors who sing and dance to music that is played by musicians to tell a story. Going to see a musical at the Belk Theater is a little like going to a movie theater, except the action is not on a screen, but on a stage with real people (called actors) in front of you! It's really exciting!

The musical will tell us the story of How the Grinch Stole Christmas, like the book by Dr. Seuss and the movie, too. The actors will talk, sing, and dance on the stage to tell the story and we get to watch!

How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical is at Belk Theater in Charlotte. It is in part of the city with big buildings, cars, lights, signs and people! We will travel there by car or bus or train, but our families know the best way to get there. If we drive by car, we will park in a big parking lot next to the theater. If we take the train, we will have to walk a little bit from the train station to the theater.

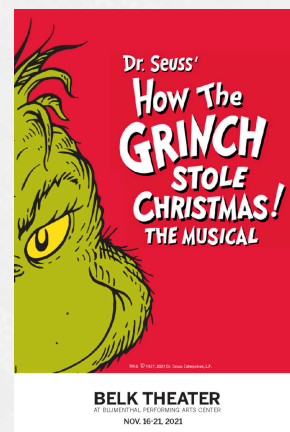


When we get to Belk Theater we will know we are in the right place because we will see signs for How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical and see other people who are going to the show, too. We may have to stand in line to enter the building through the front doors, so we will need to be patient! Once we get inside the big lobby and it's our turn, we will get our tickets scanned with a little machine. Our tickets can be paper or on a phone. The person who scans our tickets will tell us where to go. We must also remember to wear our masks once we get inside the building!



When we're inside the lobby, we can go to our seats inside the theater. A nice person called an usher will help us find our seats. The theater is a really big room with a high ceiling, with lots and lots of seats and a stage on one side. The stage is where the actors and musicians will be and the seats are where the audience will be.

That's us! We are a part of the audience - the people who watch the musical! Each seat has a special number that matches our ticket number, so we know where to sit. This is not a choice - we cannot sit wherever we want. The usher will also give us a Playbill. A Playbill is a little book that tells us all about the people who make How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical and what songs we will hear.



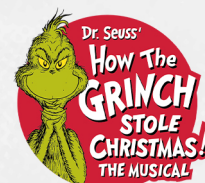
There are restrooms in the lobby if we need to go to the bathroom or wash our hands. We can choose to go to a big restroom or a small restroom, but we need to go with someone in our family or group. We can also stop at a concessions window. This is where we can buy a snack or a drink, if we're hungry or thirsty. Our families will help us decide if we buy anything to eat or drink. We can't bring food or drinks to our seats, so we need to enjoy them while we are in the lobby. Remember, this is the only time we can take off our masks!



We can also visit the upstairs in the theater - that is where fun activities will be! We can walk up the stairs or take the elevator. The activities are just for the audience - that's us! They are there to help us wait patiently until the show starts or give us something to play with and touch if we don't want to sit in our seats. This is also the place where we can go if the music gets too loud or we want to move our bodies during the performance or we just get tired of watching for a few minutes and want a break.



When we are comfortable in our seats and the show is about to start, the theater will get darker and the stage lights will shine brightly. The music will begin and the curtain will open and the actors will start talking and singing. If it's too loud for us we can cover our ears, put on our headphones or ask an adult for help.



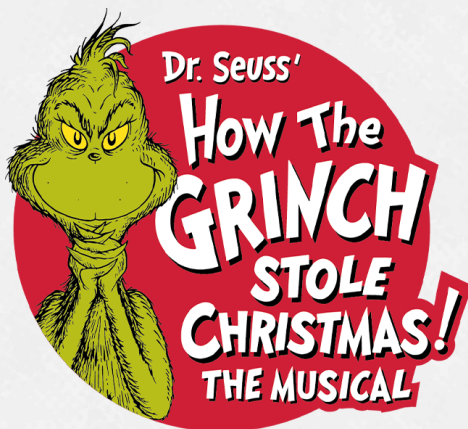


If we need to take a break, we can leave our seats and go with our families to the activities area where it's much quieter. We can even continue to watch what's happening on the stage through a monitor on the wall, if we don't want to miss anything.

We may come back to our seats when we're ready. After each song in the show some people will clap to show the actors that they enjoyed the song. If we want to clap we can, if we don't want to clap, that's fine, too. If it's too loud for us we can cover our ears, put on our headphones or ask an adult for help. At the end of the show the whole audience will clap to show the actors on stage how much they enjoyed the performance. Sometimes the audience will stand up and clap, too.



We will know the show is over when the curtain closes, the music ends and the theater isn't dark anymore. We will leave our seats with the other guests, so we need to be patient and stay close to our families. Afterwards, we can remember all the different sights and sounds we experienced and all the fun we had at How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical.



ENJOY THE SHOW!

