Sensory-Friendly Family Concert

The Tin Forest

PRE-VISIT STORY
I am going to the *The Tin Forest* concert at Orchestra Hall.

This is where the Minnesota Orchestra performs music.
The title of the concert is *The Tin Forest*.

Some of the music is about lakes or rivers.

Some of the music goes with a story about taking care of your environment.

Some of the music was written for dancing and makes you want to move.
Before the concert, I can participate in an art activity.

I can paint or make something with clay, cardboard, or tinfoil.

The art materials I can touch can be very different. Some materials will feel soft, and some will feel hard. Some materials will feel wet, and some will feel dry. I can pick the materials that I like.
Music activity

Before the concert, I can see, touch, and hear musical instruments.

I can sing, move, and dance to the music if I want to.

The music activity can be loud when the instruments are played.

If the sounds are too loud, I can cover my ears or wear headphones.
I can see raptors before the concert.

A raptor is a bird like a hawk, falcon, or owl.

There will be a volunteer helping with the raptors. The volunteer can tell me more about the raptors if I have questions. Other people will want to ask questions too. I will keep my questions short.

I can look at the raptors, take photos with them, or feel objects like talons or feathers that the volunteer invites me to touch.
I can take a picture in the photo booth so I can remember going to see the Minnesota Orchestra at Orchestra Hall.
Meeting musicians

I can meet musicians from the orchestra and see or listen to their instruments.

I can ask the musicians questions about the instruments or the concert.

Other people will want to ask the musicians questions too. I will keep my questions short.
If I need quiet time, I will tell the person I came with.

I can leave the lobby activities or the concert anytime I want to go to a quiet area.

I can relax in the quiet areas.
The concert has a host. The host tells us what will happen during the concert.

H. Adam Harris is today’s host.

H. Adam is a director and actor.
When the orchestra is on the stage, I will see a person standing in front of the orchestra.

This person is called the conductor. The conductor uses a stick called a baton to lead the orchestra.

I will see the conductor move the baton in the air to let the musicians know how fast or slow to play the music.

Today’s conductor is Akiko Fujimoto.
An orchestra is a group of musicians playing different instruments.

Sometimes the musicians play together and sometimes they take turns.
During the concert, there is a solo performance.

A solo performance is when one musician plays a special part of the music. Emma Taggart will play a solo on the piano.

During the solo, Emma will sometimes play by herself. At other times, she will play with the full orchestra. And at other times, the orchestra will play quietly while Emma is playing her solo.
A narrator will read the story of *The Tin Forest* during the concert.

Lynne Warfel is today’s narrator.
During *The Tin Forest*, the narrator will let me know when I can join the music. I can buzz like an insect, rub my hands to sound like rustling leaves, or spread my arms out like a bird flying.

The percussionists will yell to make monkey sounds during *The Tin Forest*.

If the sounds are too loud, I can cover my ears or wear headphones.
When the concert is over, the conductor and musicians will stand up and bow.

I can clap or say “Bravo” to let the musicians know I liked the concert.
After the concert, I will leave my seat and walk in the aisle to leave the concert hall.

All the people will leave the concert hall at the same time. The aisles will be crowded.

I will walk slowly while leaving the concert hall.
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