SOCIAL NARRATIVE
for the
Sensory-Friendly Performance of
Once Upon a Time... Stories at a Symphony
June 1, 2019 at 11:00am
I am going to Symphony Hall to see the Boston Pops perform *Once Upon A Story* on June 1st, 2019 at 11:00am.
Symphony Hall is located at 301 Massachusetts Ave. Boston, MA 02115.

I can get to the hall with my family by driving, taking the T, or by riding the bus. If I have to cross the street, I will make sure to hold hands with a family member.
When we get to Symphony Hall, we will walk in the front doors. The front doors will open for the concert at 10:00am.
I may see security guards wearing uniforms standing near the doors. They are here to be sure everyone has a safe and fun experience at Symphony Hall.
We may already have our tickets, or we may have to wait in line at the Box Office to get them.
A person called an usher will help us find our seats. They will help by looking at our tickets and will tell us which seats are saved for us. The ushers wear uniforms and nametags.
Once we are inside, there will be other children and families around. They are here to see the concert too!
Before the concert, I can use the bathroom or get a drink of water at a water fountain. The bathrooms are in the hallways outside the concert hall. I may have to wait my turn to use the bathroom.
Before the concert, we can also visit concessions where I can purchase a snack and beverage. There will be tables set up with coloring books nearby the concessions. If I want to, I can color and participate, or I can watch.
Before the concert, I can visit the Instrument Playground and play the violin, viola, and cello. If I don’t want to play the instruments, I can just watch.
When I’m ready, I can find my seat inside the hall. Symphony Hall is very big! There are a lot of seats in Symphony Hall.

I will notice that the first floor is flat with tables and chairs set up.

If our seats are located in the balcony, we will walk up stairs or take an elevator.
Some of the musicians might be warming up on stage by playing their instruments. If some of the sounds are too loud, I can cover my ears.

Photo by Aram Boghosian
When the concert is about to begin, someone may ask us to turn off our cell phones and the lights may dim. Everyone in the hall will get quiet. I will try to be as quiet as I can during the concert, so that everyone can hear the music.
The conductor, Keith Lockhart, will walk onto the stage at the start of the concert. He helps the musicians play the right notes at the right time. Some of the audience members may clap for him. If I want to clap, I can clap too.
Once he is on the podium, the musicians will start playing the concert. I may find the music is too loud. If the music is too loud, it is alright for me to cover my ears or ask an usher to help me and my family find seats farther from the stage.
There will be an actor onstage and a screen hanging above the stage. The actor will be reading the story, *The Composer is Dead* by Lemony Snicket. If I have a copy of the book, I can bring it with me and follow along.
When each piece is over, the conductor will lower his hands and the audience will clap for the musicians and the conductor. If I want to clap too, I can clap!
If I need a break at any point during the concert, I can go out into the hallway or go to a Quiet Room. An usher or volunteer will be happy to show me where those rooms are located.
When the concert is over, people might stand up and clap. This is their way of telling the musicians “good job” and “thank you”. I can clap too.
Now that the concert is over and I’ve visited the Instrument Playground, it’s time to leave.

I may have to take the elevator or walk down stairs to leave the hall.
I am so excited to see the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall!