

SENSORY GUIDE

for the **sensory friendly** performance of:



GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **Duration:** Approximately 90 minutes with no intermission.
- **Purpose of Guide:** Tailored for the sensory-friendly performance on 12/10/23, this guide incorporates adjustments to minimize the show's sensory impact. The Sensory Guide for typical performances can be found at <https://acttheatre.org/a-christmas-carol-2023/>.
- **Content Overview:** Expect ghostly figures, eerie visual effects, sudden movements, and scenes with scary imagery in this production.
- **Guide Development:** This Sensory Guide resulted from an audit by a neurodivergent and hyperacoustic member of the Sensory Access team.

SENSORY IMPACT KEY



Auditory Impact



Visual Impact



Emotional Impact



Strobing Effects

COMMON DECIBEL (DB LEVELS)

70	Office/classroom chatter
80	Busy traffic, dog barking
90	Hairdryer
100	Lawnmower, construction site
110	Concert, night club
120	Police siren, airplane taking off



SENSORY ACCESS

ACCESS FOR ALL

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

SCENE

DESCRIPTION

SENSORY

Scene 1

Opening

- Actors enter from the aisles
- Fake snow lands on stage and some might land on audience members in the first few rows
- Loud music
- Complex noise
- Ringing bell



Scene 2

Narrator 1: "Scrooge never painted out old Marley's name."

- Bell chimes in the background
- Loud yelling



Scene 3

Fred enters the office.

Scene 4

Two solicitors enter the office.

- Loud yelling



Scene 5

Chimes ring out the hour of seven.

- Item slammed on desk



Scene 6

Scrooge exits the office.

- Fake snow lands on stage and some might land on audience members in the first few rows
- Loud yelling
- Spooky/unsettling depiction



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

SCENE

DESCRIPTION

SENSORY

Scene 7

Scrooge enters his rooms.

- Jumpy moments
- Loud sound effects
- Complex sound
- Loud yelling
- Bright, flashing lights
- Loud bell sound effects



Scene 8

Marley disappears.

- Thunder sound effects
- Bright flashing lights
- Bells chiming



Scene 9

Spirit 1 appears.

- Echoey voice
- Magical chimes
- Windy sound effects
- Complex noise
- Loud yelling



Scene 10

Young Scrooge enters with a book under his arm.

- Character enters suddenly
- Magical chimes
- Complex sounds



Scene 11

Fan enters.

- Echoey voice
- Magical chimes
- Complex sounds



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

SCENE

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Scene 12

Fezziwig enters in his old fashioned clothes and wig.

- Sweeping sounds
- Actors may sweep some glitter or snow on or near the front row
- Magical chimes
- Complex sounds
- Clapping, stomping/loud steps
- Some high-pitched sounds
- Loud music
- Bells chiming



Scene 13

Belle comes into the office.

- Echoey voice
- Magical chimes
- Loud yelling
- Bell chiming
- Windy sound effects



Scene 14

Crowd enters, singing, selling wares, exchanging presents.

- Complex noise
- Magical chimes
- Yelling/arguing
- Fake snow lands on stage and some might land on audience members in the first few rows



Scene 15

Martha Cratchit enters and approaches the grocer.

- Complex noise



Scene 16

Martha hides; Bob Cratchit enters with Tiny Tim on his shoulder.

- Stomping/loud steps



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Scene 17

Game of Blindman's Bluff. Napkin tied around Cratchit's eyes.

- Complex sounds
- Clapping, shouting, and cheering
- Loud music
- Emotional content
- Bells chiming
- Magical chimes



Scene 18

Fred and the niece enter; Group sings "The 12 Days of Christmas"

- Loud music
- Stomping/loud steps
- Complex noise
- Laughing/cheering
- Magic sound effect
- Actors in the aisles



Scene 19

Spirit 2 begins to exit. Spirits of Want and Ignorance appear.

- Bell chiming
- Complex noise
- Bright, flashing lights
- Spooky/unsettling depictions
- Thunder sound effects



Scene 20

Spirit 3 comes like a mist along the ground.

- Thunder sound effects
- Complex noise
- Bright, flashing lights



Scene 21

Old Joe, the undertaker's assistant, charwoman, and Mrs. Dilber enter.

- Complex noise
- Thunder sound effects
- Loud yelling



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

SCENE

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SENSORY

Scene 22

Peter reads aloud to the family; Mrs. Cratchit is sewing.

- Emotional impact related to grief



Scene 23

Cratchits exit.

- Thunder sound effects
- Stormy background sound effects
- Emotional intensity



Scene 24

Spirit 3 exits. Scrooge's bed reappears and he wakes up.

- Significant complex noise
- Loud scream and yelling
- Thunder sound effects
- Spotlights illuminate some sections of the audience
- Actor in one of the aisles



Scene 25

Two solicitors enter with stacks of gifts.

- Loud music
- Stomping/loud steps
- Some high-pitched sounds



Scene 26

Scrooge and turkey boy exit; Cratchits enter.

- Loud cheering, clapping, and laughing
- Loud shriek/scream
- Stomping/loud steps



Scene 27

Fred and niece enter

- Loud music and singing
- Actors in the aisles



ALLEN THEATRE

