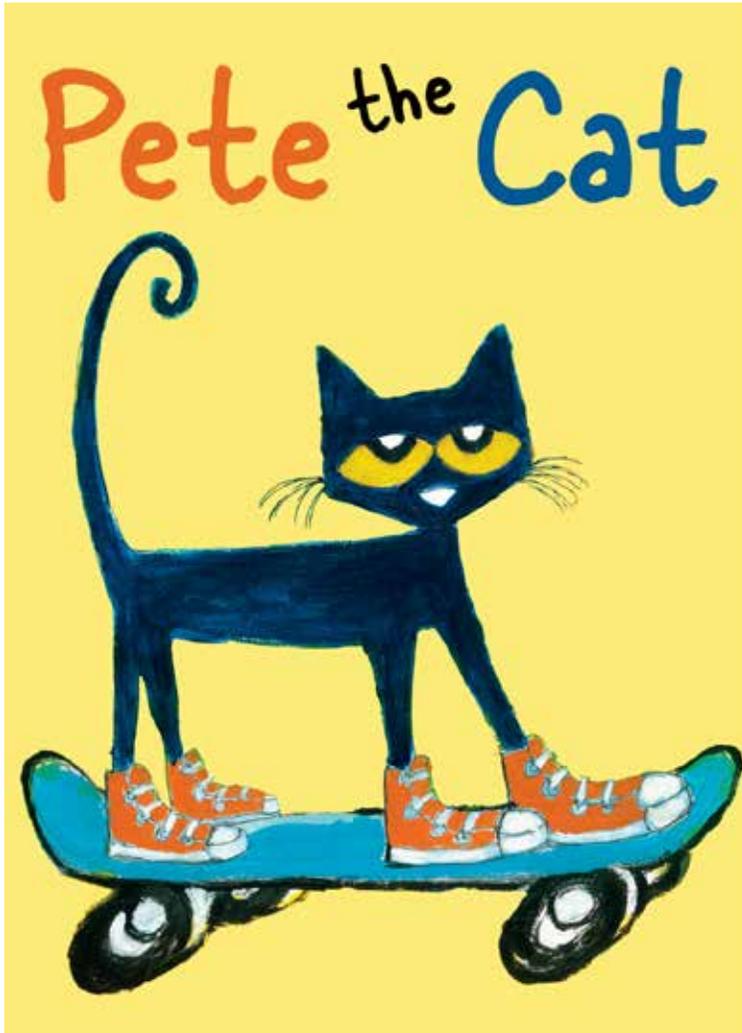


**SENSORY-  
FRIENDLY  
PERFORMANCE**



**PARENT'S  
GUIDE**

**Sunday, April 28 at 4 p.m.**



# Pete the Cat

Based on the PETE THE CAT series of books by Kimberly and James Dean | Music by Will Aronson  
| Books & Lyrics by Sarah Hammond

## About the show

Everyone's favorite rockin' blue cat takes the stage in this musical performance. When the unsuspecting Biddle family takes in the fantastic feline, Pete the Cat rocks the family's world with his strumming and strutting. Everybody loves Pete the Cat, well, everyone except Jimmy, the planet's most organized second-grader. That all changes, of course, when Pete the Cat takes Jimmy on a once-in-a-lifetime road trip.

## Show sponsors

Continental Tire the Americas LLC, SPX Corporation, Cynthia & Ray Bush, John & Nancy Dickson, Jennifer & Jack Ross, Angela & Josh Scholl, and Lisa & Glenn Sherrill.

The Dreamer series is sponsored by: The Leon Levine Foundation - Sandra and Leon Levine

## Special thanks



to Julie Higginbotham of Precious Developments. Julie has worked as our consultant in the creation and preparation of our sensory-friendly performances. We're grateful for this valued partnership.

## What to expect at a sensory-friendly performance

Sensory-friendly theatre is an approach to the audience experience that "softens" the environment. What does that mean exactly? In general, we make the theatre available to everyone, including those who may need more flexibility to help manage all of the sensory experiences that come along with attending a performance. Below are some of the adjustments Children's Theatre of Charlotte is making to create a more sensory-friendly environment tailored to each show:

- Lights in the theatre will stay low during the show, instead of turning all the way off.
- We will lower the sound levels when needed.
- We sell fewer tickets for the sensory-friendly performances so families have more room to move as needed.
- We provide fidgets, headphones and weighted toys to help children feel more organized and settled.
- Someone will be at the front of the stage with glow sticks to help give families a warning when sensory-rich moments are nearing. Raising one light means there's a smaller sensory moment coming up (like a loud sound or a change in lighting). Raising two lights means a more intense sensory-rich moment is about to occur.
- We provide a quiet room if children need to leave the theatre to feel more settled or regroup during the show.

## Support materials for you

We provide several guides to help prepare your family for your visit:

The **visit guide** that walks your family through our facility.

The **child guide** goes with each performance.

The **parent guide** like this one helps parents support their children's learning and experience in the theatre.

We want you to have the opportunity to enjoy the theatre with your family, so with that, please enjoy the show!

# Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments in *Pete the Cat*



Meet Pete the Cat, the coolest cat that ever lived! He even has his own groovy band, complete with Grumpy Toad and Gus the Platypus! But wait a minute....life for Pete the Cat is about to change.....

*We can welcome anyone into our friendship circle!*

**Sensory-rich moments:**

This fun production opens with some groovy electric guitar imitations and moves into a musical number with some lighting changes and siren sound effects.



The Biddles are excited about getting a new house cat. Well, most of them are excited. What will they think of Pete the Cat? ACHOO!

*How do we handle changes that happen around us, both expected and unexpected?*

**Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a musical number that builds through the scene, doorbell sound effects, and some lighting shifts.



Pete the Cat is making himself at home, but how is Jimmy handling his new roommate?

*Flexibility doesn't come easily to all of us. How can we talk to our kids about ways to take in new experiences?*

**Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a musical number with mild lighting shifts.



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Pete the Cat goes to school with Jimmy, and he brings along some surprises to everyone's day.

*Everyone learns in different ways. How do we find out how our children learn so we can best support them?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a longer, more active musical number with an alarm clock sound effect, more involved lighting changes, and opera singing.



This is a tough day for the Biddles for sure! So many sneezes....and why is Jimmy under that table?

*How do we know when our kids are stressed or upset?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a few shouts, phone ring sound effects, and muffled audio sound effects. It moves into a funny musical number with lighting effects.



Leave it to Pete the Cat to show up and help Jimmy deal with his situation at school!

*We all need someone who can help us figure out how to handle stressful situations and be brave enough to get out from under the couch.*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains an energetic musical number with lighting effects .



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



This VW Bug isn't just going around the block to help Jimmy find his inspiration.....

*What can we do to help kids unlock the magic in their imagination?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene is full of cool sensory-rich moments, including a musical number, more significant lighting changes, horn honks, working headlights that face out from the stage. Remember - we now offer sunglasses to anyone who would like to use them!



The coolest band is back together again! Watch what happens when Jimmy's new friends come together to help him find his creativity.....

*How do we see our kids' confidence grow and change when the right people are there to help them?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a fun musical number with lighting changes and building energy and movement. It transitions into a brief moment with shouting.



Mrs. Creech is looking for Jimmy. What do you think she'll say when she sees his new painting?

*We all have different abilities - how do we celebrate them all?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

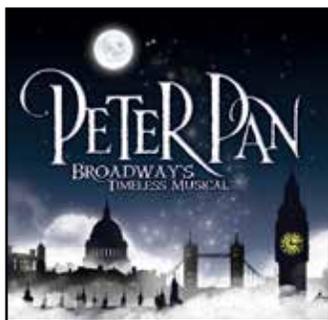
This scene moves into a musical number with lighting changes that will build into the end of the production. There is a final musical number with the curtain call as well.



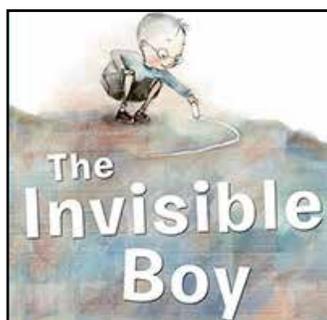
# Announcing our 2019-2020 SEASON

Thanks for joining us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for this special performance. We hope to see you at our other sensory-friendly performances next season.

For details, visit: [ctcharlotte.org](http://ctcharlotte.org) and click on Shows & Tickets>Sensory-Friendly Performances.



**Peter Pan**  
Sun., Oct. 13, 2019 at  
7 p.m.  
For ages all ages



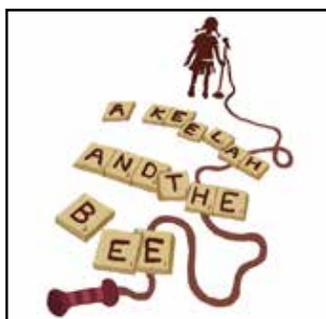
**The Invisible Boy**  
Sun., Nov. 10, 2019  
For ages 6 and older



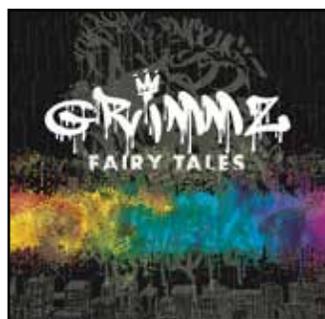
**The Best Christmas Pageant  
Ever: The Musical**  
Sun., Dec. 8, 2019  
For all ages



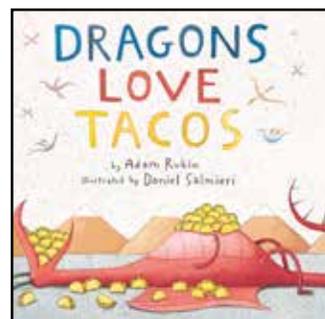
**The True Story of  
the 3 Little Pigs**  
Sun., Jan. 12, 2020  
For ages 4 and older



**Akeelah and the Bee**  
Sun., Feb. 16, 2020 at 7 p.m.  
For ages 8 and older



**GRIMMZ Fairy Tales**  
Sun., Mar. 8, 2020  
For ages 6 and older



**Dragons Love Tacos**  
Sun., Apr. 26, 2020  
For ages 4 and older

All performances are at 4 p.m. unless noted otherwise.



[ctcharlotte.org](http://ctcharlotte.org)