

**SENSORY-
FRIENDLY
PERFORMANCE**



PARENT'S GUIDE

Saturday, April 21 at 11 a.m.



Madagascar - A Musical Adventure

Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture / Book by Kevin Del Aguila / Original Music and Lyrics by George Noriega & Joel Someillan / *Madagascar – A Musical Adventure* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

About the show

Join Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe, Gloria the Hippo and, of course, those hilarious, plotting penguins as they bound onto the stage in the musical adventure of a lifetime. Based on the smash DreamWorks animated motion picture, *Madagascar – A Musical Adventure* follows all of your favorite crack-a-lackin’ friends as they escape from their home in New York City’s Central Park Zoo and find themselves on an unexpected journey to the madcap world of King Julien’s Madagascar. Filled with outlandish characters, adventure galore and an upbeat score, audiences won’t be able to help getting out of their seats to “Move It, Move It!”

Corporate sponsors

Continental Tire the Americas, LLC and SPX Corporation

Show sponsors

Herb and Gina Clegg, Quanteer Williams, Angela and Josh Scholl, Tammy Stringer and Rick Viola

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).
- 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 *Madagascar - A Musical Adventure*



Welcome to the Central Park Zoo!!! These zookeepers really know how to “Move it, Move it!”

It’s so much fun when we can relax and really have a good time with our kids!

Sensory-rich moments:

This show is full of music, dancing, and incredible energy from start to finish! Along with our live preshow introduction to welcome you to our Sensory-Friendly Performance, the zookeepers will come out and teach the audience how to dance along with our performers before the rest of the show gets started!



Meet Alex, Marty, Melman, and Gloria - they’re the stars of the zoo!

We’re all different, but we can all still be friends!

Sensory-rich moments:

Along with dynamic lighting, music, and dancing, this scene contains flashes while two actors taking pictures come through part of the audience.



Happy Birthday, Marty! Watch what happens when he makes his birthday wish.....

What can we learn when we ask kids about their wishes and dreams?

Sensory-rich moments:

This is a mild scene that transitions into one with more lighting changes and musical numbers.



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Alex and Marty really are good friends. But wait until you see what Marty has up his sleeve....

We all need someone who knows just how to make us feel better. Who are the people always in your corner?

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains bright, moving lights during the song. It will then use a spotlight moment to transition into the next scene.



Wait....are those animals taking the subway?

How do we help our kids “relax” and “be cool” so they can enjoy new experiences?

Sensory-rich moments:

After the dance number in this scene, the story transitions into a dream-like moment. When it is finished, the lights in the audience will fade slowly to dark for a short scene. This is done so you can enjoy the special effects of this moment. The lights will return to normal when this scene concludes.



Welcome to.....where are they exactly?

We like to know what to expect, but how do we handle it when the unexpected happens?

Sensory-rich moments:

In this scene, there is some shouting and crying as the animals meet new friends in this new place. There is also an actor playing a drum.



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



King Julian is here to welcome the zoo animals to.... Madagascar! It's time to "Move It, Move It!"

How do we help our children make new friends when they start something new?

Sensory-rich moments:

This number is very energetic and dynamic - feel free to get up and dance along with the cast!



It's time for Marty, Alex, Gloria, and Melman to settle in for their first night's sleep in Madagascar.

It can be hard to sleep the first night in a new place! Are there routines or comfort items you use to make things a little more familiar?

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains a dream sequence with dancing, lighting changes, and puppets.



Now this is what Marty has been waiting for PARADISE!

When things get tough, what can we do to look for the good things that are happening around us?

Sensory-rich moments:

This is another energetic musical number that ends with, well, a bite in an unfortunate place. :)



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Uh-oh, Alex seems to be changing now that he's out in the wild. His friends are afraid of him - now what?

How do we react when our friends start growing and changing, especially if we're doing the same?

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene may seem scary as Alex realizes his friend looks like food. This scene transitions with our Penguin friends - one Penguin comes down the steps in the audience to get to the stage, and that transition ends with thunder and lightening.



Marty isn't going to give up on his best friend, but can he change Alex's mind without being eaten?

We all need friends who will stick by us through thick and thin, and it's important for us to be that person for our friends.

Sensory-rich moments:

This dance moves into a scarier scene with simulated fighting, some flashing lights, and increased activity.



Whew! The Foosa are gone, the animals are all friends, and they even found food to satisfy Alex's lion appetite!

With a little work and a lot of love, we can all enjoy living life together!

Sensory-rich moments:

This dance number concludes the show and moves into the actors' moment to bow! But there's more.....



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



DJ Scratch 'n' Sniff has one more surprise for you - Have fun!

When we don't worry about what everyone else thinks, we have a chance to really have a good time!

Sensory-rich moments:

This is another moment for the audience to get up and dance with the cast! It's time to "Move It, Move It" again!

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 in the future. For details, visit: ctcharlotte.org/online/article/sensory-friendly-performances.



ctcharlotte.org