Going to see Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering

On Saturday, November 16th or 22nd, I am going to the Keshet Center for the Arts to see Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering. The Keshet Center for the Arts is a performing arts space in Albuquerque where people can go to see different shows. The show I am going to see is a contemporary dance performance called Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering. Dancers of all ages and abilities will tell the story by moving their bodies and dancing. I will get to watch the dancers on stages and listen to the music. The dancers will not talk while they are dancing. I can read about Alice in Wonderland, however Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering is a different story. The show will start at 2:00 in the afternoon.

Getting to Keshet Center for the Arts

After lunch, I can ride to Keshet Center for the Arts with my family/group. We can get dropped off or we can park in the parking lot or along the street in front of Keshet Center for the Arts. My parents/ group can tell me what we plan to do. Keshet Center for the Arts also has directions on their website Keshetarts.org.

When we get to Keshet Center for the Arts we will go inside the building. There is a purple door decorated in the middle of the building that leads directly into the lobby. Inside the door I will meet volunteers dressed in black and white and wearing a tag around their neck. They will greet us at the door and can help answer any questions and show us where to go. I can say “hi” or “good afternoon” to the volunteers.

In the lobby

Inside the lobby I will see many decorations. Some of these decorations could break or fall, so I will remember to look at the decorations, but I won’t touch them. There may be lots of people coming to see Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering, so it is important for me to stay close to my parents/group so that I stay safe. It is also important for me to stay calm and wait my turn if there is a line for something that I want to do or see. I can bring some things from home in a bag to do while I wait. If I think it might be too loud in the lobby, I can cover my ears or pack headphones to wear.

The show starts at 2:00 in the afternoon. The doors to the theater will open at 1:30 pm. If I am early, I will have to wait to go inside the theater. While I wait I can look around the lobby, go to the restroom, eat a snack, play with things I brought from home, practice dancing, or have my photo taken at a large backdrop outside the theater door. The Ushers or Ticket takers will be at the big black door to the theater. I can hand my ticket to them so they can scan it and then give me back the ticket to keep as a bookmark.
Restrooms

If I need to use the restroom, there are restrooms located down the backstage hallway and to the left. There is also an accessible restroom located in the Lobby. If there are a lot of people that need to use the restroom, I may need to wait in line. I will try to be patient and wait my turn to use the restroom.

Food and Drinks

I may see people selling food and drinks in the lobby. They usually sell cookies, water and have a donation hot chocolate/ coffee table. I can talk to my parents before the show to see if we plan to buy a snack and/or drink or bring something from home. This is a special performance and I am allowed to bring snacks and drinks from home and have them inside the theater. If I am buying something in the lobby, I may have to wait in line for my turn to buy a snack or drink.

Break Areas

For this performance, there will be two break areas that are available for me if I need to take a break, or would like to go to a quiet space with fewer people. I can tell my parents/ group that I need to take a break and we can go to one of these areas. The first break area is right in the theater as you enter. It is beside the seating risers on the right side as you are looking at the stage. The second (quieter) break area is in the lobby down the left hallway outside of the dance studios. I can go to the quiet break area before, during or after the show if I need to. Any of the volunteers can show me where to go if I need help.

Entering the theater

When it is time to go into the theater, I will show my ticket to the usher. They will scan my tickets and hand it back to me. Inside the door another volunteer usher will offer me a playbill to look at and learn more about Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering before the show starts. I can take this program/playbill home to remember our visit to see Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering.

In the theater

When I go inside the theater I will see lots of seats. For this performance it is open seating. That means, together with my family/group, I can choose which seat I want to sit in for the whole show. As I set in my seat, I will wait for the show to start. The seats are all facing the stage. All the people who sit in the seats to watch the performance are called the audience. It is important to sit in my chair during the show so that the people sitting behind me can see the stage.
The stage is where the dancers will stand and dance during the show. In front of the stage is called the apron. This is the space we keep clear for audience members to walk, find their seats or move to the break areas if needed. For my safety and the safety of the dancers, I will stay off the stage.

Watching Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering

When it is time for the show to start there will be a short announcement and the lights will get a little bit darker, but won’t turn off. They will stay at half brightness during the show. I can clap anytime to show I am excited to see the show. When the music starts the dancers will come on stage and start dancing. There will be kids and adults dancing in the show. The dancers will be wearing different costumes to help tell the story.

The dancers will come on and off stage during different parts of the show. Lights will be used on the stage to make it look like different places or different times of the day. Sometimes light will shine on one part of the stage if there is something important for the audience to see. I can follow the light with my eyes to look at the important things. The music and sounds help to tell the story. If the music or sounds are too loud I can cover my ears or wear headphones.

If I need a break while the dancers are dancing, I can tell my parents and they can walk with me out of the theater. Since this is a special performance it is okay to get up and take a break during the show. If I take a break, I can walk around the lobby to go to one of the special break areas. I can also visit the restroom in the Lobby. I can come back and watch the rest of the show when I am ready.

The show is divided into two acts, Act One and Act Two. I will see different dancers and costumes and hear different music in each act. Each act lasts about 30 minutes. There will be a break called intermission between the two acts.

Act One

Alice, an adventure of wonder and wondering - This is NOT the story of Alice in Wonderland – this is the story of Keshet’s Alice, a brave girl exploring, imagining and adventuring.

- Our story begins in Keshet’s “Wonderland” as characters go about their lives – some happy, some sad, some in a hurry, some with plenty of time on their hands to spend time with friends.
- Soon we meet our favorite friend Mima Be, the rain begins to fall and this is a signal for change and new adventure in Wonderland.
- Mima Be settles into her warm home by the fire, and suddenly, Alice tumbles right into Wonderland. How did she get there? Where was she coming from? These are questions left up to your imagination...but however it happened – she’s in Wonderland now!
- Alice is offered tea by Mima's fire, she is enjoying herself as the house slowly transforms and she begins dancing with the walls, the coat racks, the fireplace, and the doorway.
- Mima Be takes Alice to explore more of Wonderland!
- Alice meets the Mad Hatters and Hares. They are “Mad” in the crazy sort of way, never angry, just hilarious and always ready for a good time!
- As the Hatters and Hares leave to continue their never-ending party elsewhere, the winds pick up and Alice finds herself deep within Wonderland’s Earth. The Earth
welcomes Alice and she joins them dancing and celebrating unlimited possibilities...anything can be!

- The Earth introduces Alice to the Bohemians, a dramatic bunch who feel a full range of emotions, but soon Alice must say goodbye to her new, dramatic friends.

At the end of Act One, I will clap my hands to tell the dancers they did a good job and that I liked the first half of the show.

After Act One, there is an intermission. This is a break for the dancers and the audience. During intermission I can stand up, go to the restroom, get a snack or take a break. I can also choose to stay in my seat. During intermission the lights will get brighter again so that the people can see to stand up and walk around. I can talk with my family/group during intermission. Intermission will last for 15 minutes.

When it is time for the show to start again the lights will go to half brightness. The music will start playing and Act Two will begin.

**Act Two**

- Alice leads a Bohemian parade, soon her friends are running from the slowly approaching creepy forest – new, but different Earth is moving underneath Alice’s feet, and she gets concerned.
- Alice crawls her way out of this forest of fear and distrust, only to find that Mima Be has been searching for her.
- Mima Be shows Alice the seedlings of flowers, and how simple love can make each flower bloom. Alice and Mima transform every one of the seeds into a beautiful garden through which they dance and celebrate. Look what happens when you use your imagination!
- Alice thanks her Wonderland friends for showing her such a lovely adventure and finds her way back to Mima Be’s front yard where she began. Mima Be says goodbye to Alice, and Alice makes her way out of Wonderland, back through the tunnel from which she arrived.
- Will Alice return to Wonderland? What will her next adventures be? Was this just a dream of a little girl named Alice who fell asleep at the side of a riverbank? The answers are up to you. But no matter what – remember – anything can happen, anything can be.

At the end of Act Two the audience will clap for the dancers. The dancers will take turns coming onto the stage so that the audience can clap for them. I will clap my hands to tell the dancers they did a good job. I can even cheer if I want to! The dancers will take a bow while the audience claps. Sometimes when the audience really likes the show they will stand up to clap. This tells the dancers they did a really good job! When the clapping slows down the dancers will dance off the stage. This will mean the show is over.

I will look around my seat and make sure that I pick up all my things before I leave. I will walk to the aisle and wait with my family/group to walk out of the theater. There will be lots of people leaving the theater at the same time. I will try to be patient while I wait my turn to walk up the aisle and into the lobby. I can stop at the restroom if I need to on the way out of the building. I will walk with my family/group through the lobby and to our car.