

# THE ADDAMS FAMILY

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Get ready to see

## THE ADDAMS FAMILY

at Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University

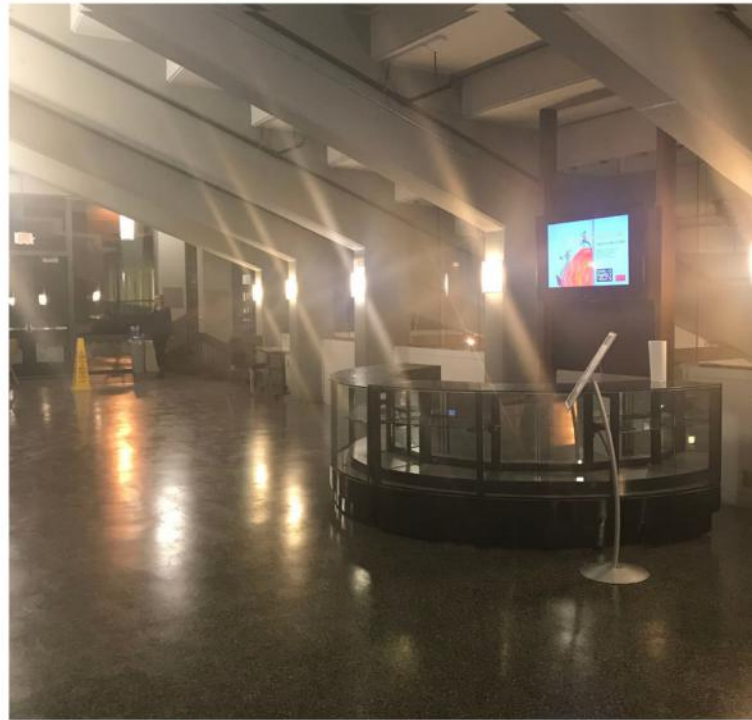
A social story to help families prepare for a visit to the theater



I am going to see a play called  
*THE ADDAMS FAMILY* at Wheelock  
Family Theatre at Boston University.



When I get to the theater, we will walk  
through the lobby.



It might be crowded.

I can take deep breaths and be patient  
as we move through the crowd.





In a play, people on stage tell a story -  
right in front of us!

These people are called actors.



When I sit down in the theater I will see  
**the set**. A set is an imaginary place,  
built on the stage, to show where the  
story happens.



The set for this play looks like a stage!

This set can be many different places!  
Sometimes it's a park or different  
rooms in the Addams' house!

It can also move and become bigger!  
Cool!





This play is about two families coming together. These two families start thinking they are very different and can't be friends. They learn that maybe they have some things in common!



The story of this play is told through songs and dancing, not just speaking.



The music in this play is done inside of the pit.

The pit is a space underneath the stage where all the musicians sit!

This is the opening to the pit. Maybe I will see the music director pop up!



Sometimes the sounds and music can get loud. If it is too loud for me I can always cover my ears...



...I can hug or hold hands with my mom or dad, or with someone else who came with me to the theater.



If I need a break I can go into the lobby...





...or to a quiet, cozy space nearby.



If I need something to hold onto I can ask an usher for a squishy toy.



I will know that the play is about to start when the lights in the room get darker and the lights on the stage get brighter.

The audience will get very quiet. It is important that I try to be quiet during the show so the play can be heard.





Now, let's meet some of the characters in this play!

First, let's learn about the Addams Family. They like all things dark and spooky! Their family is very close and loves each other very much,



The family has parents: Gomez and Morticia. They love each other almost as much as they love their children.

They might argue sometimes, but they never stop loving each other.



The family has an uncle named Uncle Fester. He is a talented dancer and loves the moon.

He helps to make sure everyone finds love.





There is also a butler named Lurch. He doesn't talk very much, but he can still communicate!

How many different ways does Lurch say "Grrgh"?



There is also a Grandma in the family. She has lots of herbs and potions.

Little brother Pugsley likes to get advice from Grandma when he's not playing with his sister.



The older sister is named Wednesday. She is 18 and feels ready to be an adult. She has fallen in love with a boy named Lucas but is keeping her plans a secret from her mother.





Wednesday's boyfriend Lucas is very sweet. He brings his family to the Addams' house to meet them.



Lucas' parents are named Mal and Alice.

Alice loves poetry and writes it all the time.

Mal is more serious, but has a more playful past.



Last, we have the Addams Family Ancestors who have all died many years ago. They are stuck in the living world until love triumphs.

They will help Fester to make these plans come true!



In this play, many of the actors are wearing lots of make-up to show that they are dead. They are not really dead, just pretending.



I will look at all of the cool makeup designs!

In this play, Wednesday has a special weapon called a crossbow. This weapon shoots arrows and she uses it to hunt.



This is not a real weapon. It cannot really shoot arrows.

In one scene, Wednesday puts on a blindfold and shoots an arrow at an apple on Lucas' head.

This is pretend. Lucas' actor is safe.

In real life, this is VERY dangerous and I know never to do this.





Pugsley has explosives that he throws off stage.

These are just a prop and the sound is a recording played on the speakers. There is no real explosion.



During a song, Wednesday accidentally hurts a bird.

This bird is a prop! This means it is just a toy and is built to be able to break and be put back together each night.

No animals were hurt.



Wednesday and Pugsley like to play with a torture machine. Pugsley's arms are pulled by the machine. This is all pretend. The machine was made in order to be safe for the actors.

No one is getting hurt.



Sometimes in this play, there is smoke on stage.

I know this is a special kind of smoke called haze that is used in plays. It is made backstage by a device called a haze machine.



There is lightning and thunder in this play.

The lighting is done through special lights and the thunder is done through a recorded sound cue.

There is no real weather.



There is a scene in this play with a monster. It makes noises that might scare me.

This is an actor inside of a costume.





If I feel scared, know that this is just a story and everyone is safe and only pretending.



At the end of a scene or song some people will clap. Clapping tells the actors that I liked their performance.



If I want to clap I can.  
If I don't want to clap I don't have to.

This play is performed with an intermission. This is a break in the play where I can leave the theater to walk around the lobby, use the restroom,



get a drink of water, or have a snack.



At the end of the play all of the actors will come out on stage and bow. This is called a curtain call.



I can clap. Clapping tells the actors I liked the show.

If I really like the show I can stand up and clap. This is called a standing ovation.





After I move through the lobby I will leave Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University.



Going to the theater is very exciting!

I hope I will have a great time when I go to see *THE ADDAMS FAMILY*.



For more information about access and inclusion at Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University please contact Jeri Hammond, Director of Education, Outreach, and Community Engagement, at [JeriH@bu.edu](mailto:JeriH@bu.edu) or 617-353-1459.

