

Accessibility Information

Physical venue access

- Venue has a door with an automatic button from the street with a small lip that leads to a staircase or an elevator that takes you to the 2nd floor of the venue where the event takes place. Elevator access to all areas of the venue, the seating is in bleachers with mobility device seating in the front row or in the balcony coming up the elevator to the 3rd floor.
- Chairs in the theatre have armrests - there are chairs without armrests in the first row
- Chairs in the rest of the venue do not have armrests
- Washrooms have wheelchair accessible stalls
- Emergency exit out to Seymour St through the stairs or elevator
- The event is mostly seated - performances are seated, lunch and Connects room are seated, workshops are mostly seated with options for movement
- Lunch is served in individually packaged lunch boxes with compostable utensils
- Coffee, tea, and snacks are self serve at a table in the lobby area outside the theatre
- A watercooler is available in the lobby, also self serve
- ArtStarts staff are happy to assist folks to collect snacks, food, or drink

There is no ASL interpretation, Live Captioning, or CART Transcription available for this event. Event will be recorded and some videos will be made available after the event with English closed captions.

We are modifying the washrooms in the space to be Gender Neutral. The washrooms right outside the theatre are multi-stalled.

- One washroom has urinals, stalls, and sinks.
- The other washroom has all stalls and sinks.
- An individual washroom with a locking door is around the corner in the lobby.
- Please check the signage for the washrooms to ensure the washroom has the facilities you need.

We encourage mask usage - Masks are not required

- All ArtStarts staff will be wearing Humask masks with a clear panel so you can see the wearer's mouth.
- Masks will be available for all attendees at the venue.
- Performers and the MCs will not be wearing masks while on stage.
- The event does include eating and drinking. Attendees will be unmasked for meals and snacks. You are welcome to take your lunch outside or to a less crowded area of the venue for safety and privacy.
- Vaccine information is not collected for this event

Sound: Showcase includes 20+ live performances from all kinds of performing artists, hands on workshops, and connection opportunities with other attendees.

- Some performances will be very loud featuring a live band or a large dance group. Other performances will be quite quiet and subdued.
- Workshops and Connects include lively discussion with other attendees and artists. The noise levels can get loud in these discussions - the facilitators will do their best to keep things organized.
- If you need decompression time, the lobby area of the theatre on the 3rd floor is quiet. Please ask a staff member to direct you to that area.

Lighting: The venue has natural light in the lobby and various artificial lights in different spaces.

- The theatre space has lower lighting on the audience and simple stage lights on the performers. There is no use of strobe or complicated lights. The most lighting is simple washes of colour at different levels.
- Some projected video or power point presentations are part of the showings. They will be projected on the back wall of the theatre space.
- Workshops take place in the theatre and a classroom. The theatre will have medium level artificial lighting from above. The classroom will have medium level fluorescent lighting from above.
- Connects take place in a large hall with medium level artificial lighting from above

Scent Sensitivity - please come lightly scented or not at all to accommodate attendees with scent sensitivities. Please do not wear heavily scented perfumes or cologne. The soap in the venue is unscented.

In a medical emergency, please find an ArtStarts Staff who can direct you to the First Aid Attendant for the venue

In case of fire - please calmly evacuate via the stairs and gather in the parking lot across the street from the venue

In case of an earthquake - please shelter in place under tables, chairs, or in doorways until the shaking stops. Then calmly evacuate via the stairs and gather in the parking lot across the street from the venue

Engagement levels and Social Expectations

The event is mostly watching performances in a theatre space.

- You are always welcome to leave the theatre between performances and there may be some interactive elements of the performances. The performances are designed for young people so the artists will be performing for the attendees as if the attendees are young people in a school. There is an MC for each day who will facilitate the space and move the event along.
- There are breaks and lunch in which there are flexible opportunities to talk to other attendees, ArtStarts staff, or the artists.
- Workshop sessions are interactive and hands-on learning opportunities facilitated by professional artists on the directory. All activities are opt-in - you always have the right to pass on an activity. An ArtStarts staff member will be in the room if you need some down time and would like to be directed to a quiet area of the venue.
- Connects is a speed-dating style round of discussions with artists on the ArtStarts roster. The facilitators of the event will provide starting questions for you and the artists at your table. You will be paired with one or more other educators and it is a group discussion about art in education. All activities are opt-in - you always have the right to pass on an activity. An ArtStarts staff member will be in the room if you need some down time and would like to be directed to a quiet area of the venue.