



## Tom Hendry Warehouse Visual Guide



Photo by Jerry Grajewski

This book gives information about what to expect when seeing a play at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre Tom Hendry Warehouse.

Sometimes the theatre is called "The Warehouse." These names all mean the same thing.

## Where is the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre Tom Hendry Warehouse?

The Warehouse Theatre is located at 140 Rupert Avenue. The cross-street is Lily Street, which is where the main door is.

This is the front of the Warehouse, viewed from across Lily Street.



Front  
Entrance

This entrance is open one hour before the performance begins. Otherwise, it is locked.

## Getting Here

You can get to Royal MTC by taking a bicycle, bus, taxi/rideshare, or personal vehicle.

There is one bike rack by the Warehouse front door, and more nearby bike racks along Market Avenue.

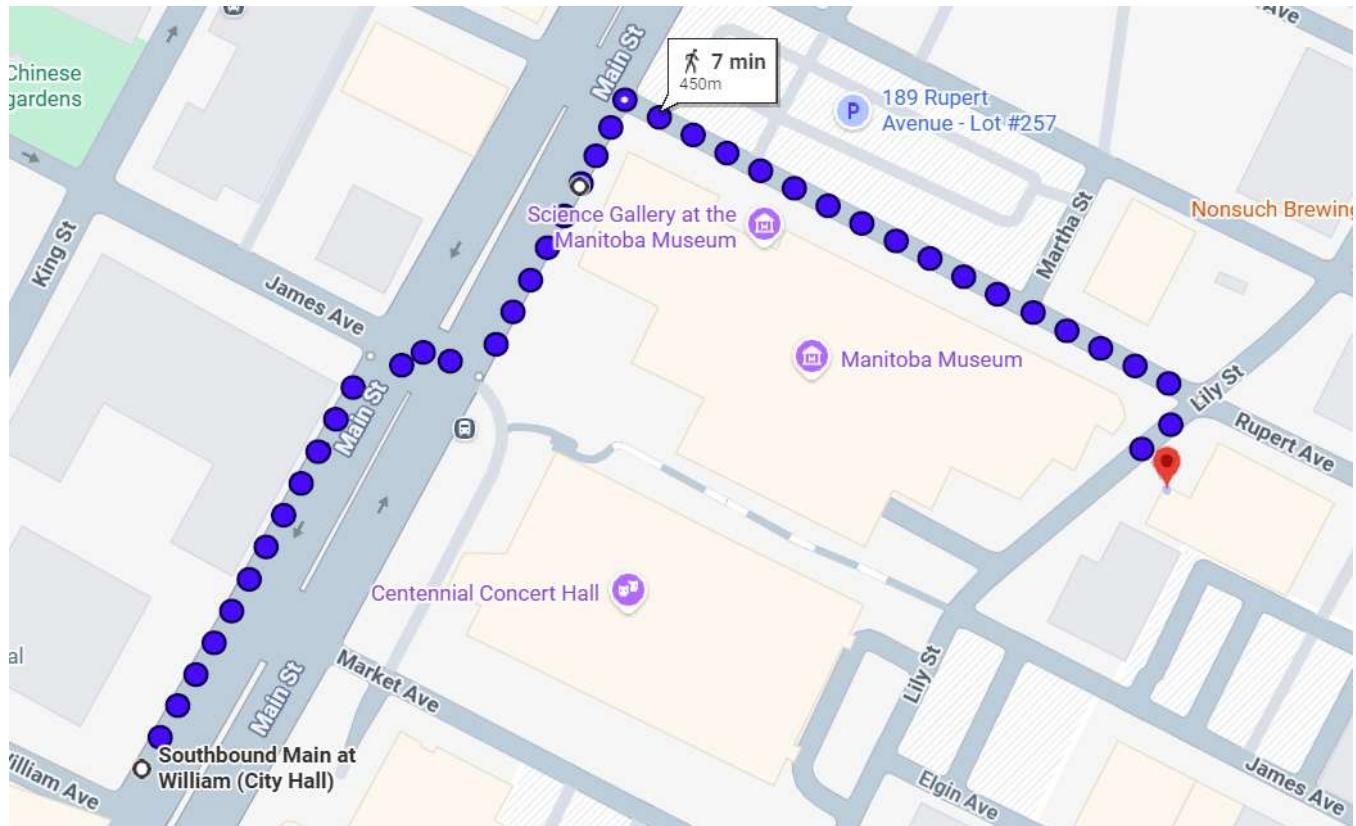


Several bus routes stop near the MTC Warehouse.

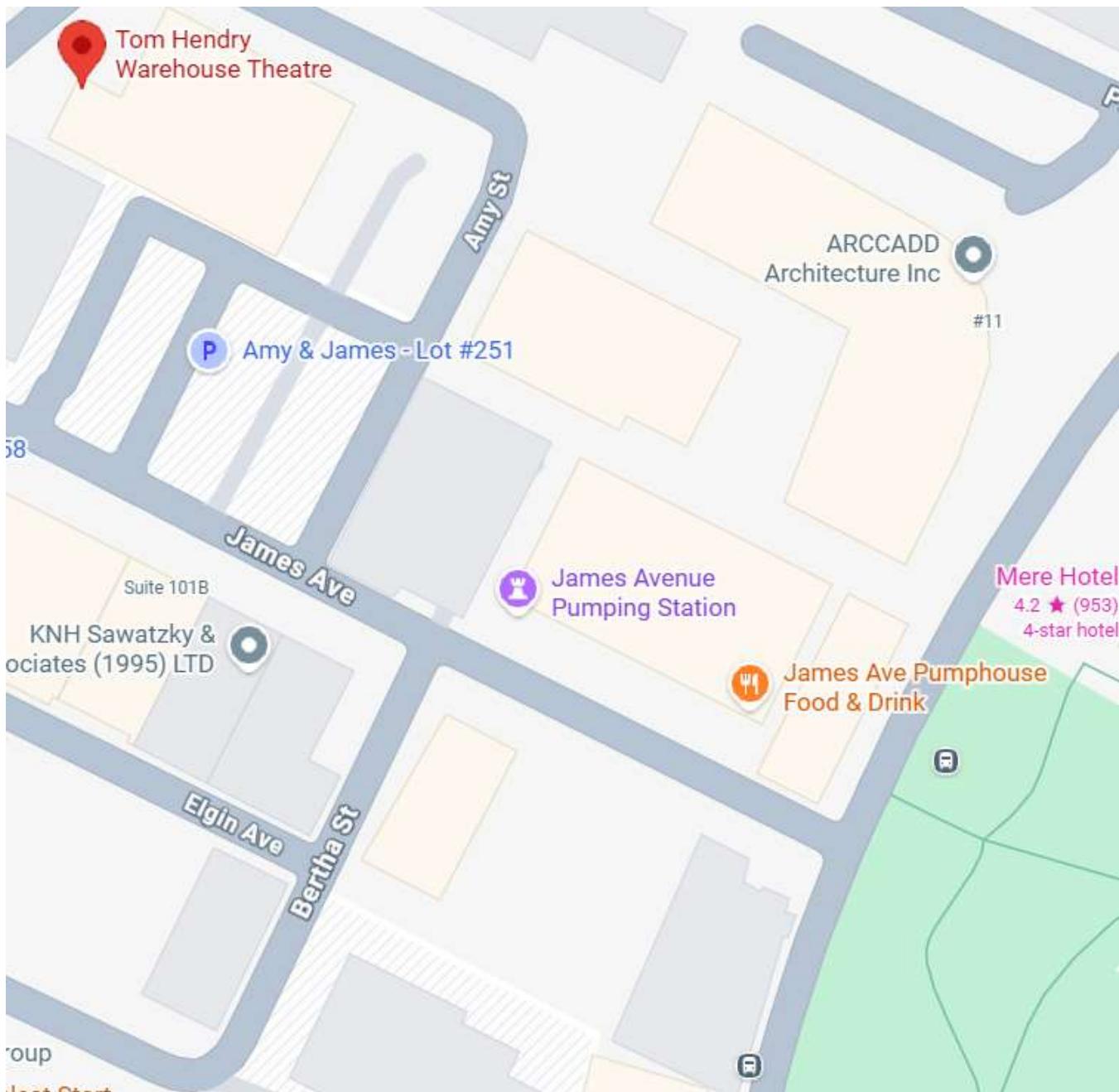
If you are coming from the south, get off the bus at stop number **10629 – Main at James: Concert Hall**. Bus routes FX2 and FX3 stop in front of the Concert Hall on Main Street. From here, you can go through the garden beside the Concert Hall, which has stairs and ramps up and down, or you can continue on Main and then turn right at the museum.



If coming from the north, get off the bus at stop number **10635 – Southbound Main at William: City Hall**. Bus routes FX2, FX3, F8, D16, and 43 stop here. Cross Main Street at the crosswalk and then follow the same routes as above to the Warehouse.



You can also take the 31 and get off at Northbound Waterfront at James, or Southbound Waterfront at James.



**Use [NaviGo](#) to plan your transit trip to the Warehouse with the destination address 140 Rupert Avenue.**

You can be dropped off or picked up by taxi or other car along Lily Street.

You also drive in your personal vehicle. Parking can be difficult to find, so allow extra time for this.

This map shows some of the places to park. The black filled rectangles are parking garages. The white rectangles are surface parking lots. These cost money to park in. The blue lines are spots for accessible street parking. The pink lines are also street parking. These spots cost money on weekdays and Saturdays, but are free in the evenings and on Sundays. More details are available at <https://royalmtc.ca/Your-Visit/Parking-Map.aspx> There is also an interactive tool at <https://en.parkopedia.ca/parking/winnipeg/> that can help you find parking.



## Before The Play Starts

When you arrive, enter through the front doors. I can arrive up to 1 hour before the play begins. There are no stairs to get through the front doors.



The Box Office is where to buy tickets if you have not done that already, or where to pick up tickets you bought, if that was the option you chose.

The Box Office is ahead of you when you enter the front doors. You may have to stand in line to get your ticket. You can pay with cash, debit, or credit.



If your ticket was mailed or sent to your digital wallet, you do not need to stop at the box office!

If you chose to get your ticket in your digital wallet, here is information about how to access it: <https://royalmtc.ca/Your-Visit/Digital-Tickets.aspx>

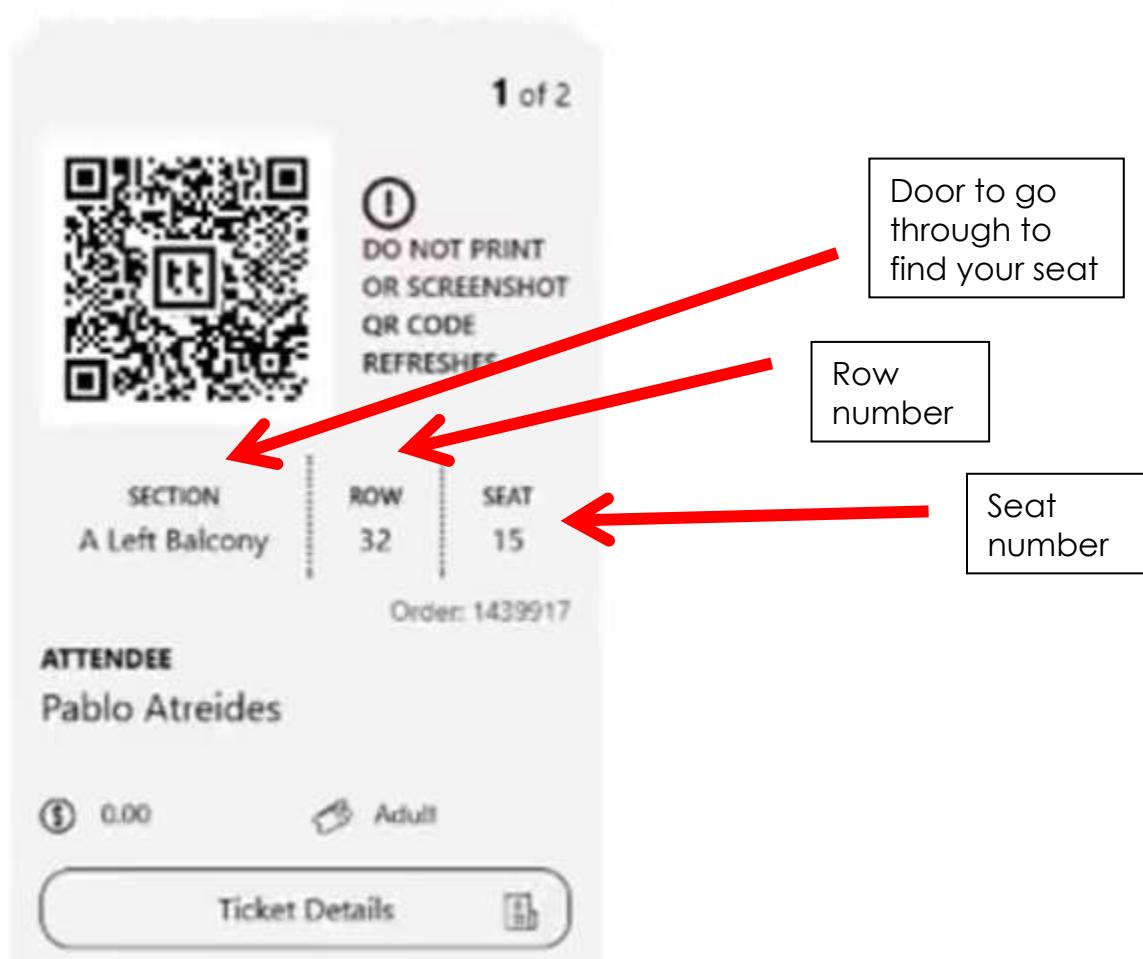
A ticket to the play looks like this, with information about where to sit.



Door to go through to find your seat

Row number

Seat number

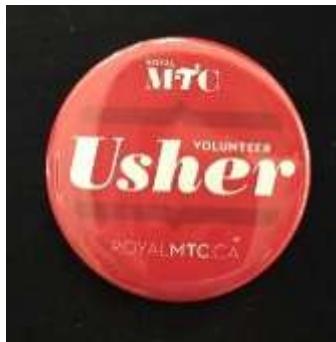


Door to go through to find your seat

Row number

Seat number

There are many people at the theatre that can answer questions or help, called volunteers. Volunteers will be wearing all black or a white shirt and black pants, and badges and name tags that look like these:



Show your ticket to the volunteer at the door, and they will scan it with a machine, which makes a jingling noise.

Depending on when you arrive, there may be a lot of people in the building, or just a few. If you need help in the crowd, you can ask a volunteer.

The large space for waiting is called the **lobby**. Here you can sit on chairs, walk around, or stand. You can use the washroom, or buy a snack or a drink.

There might be music playing, or people talking. Sometimes sound can echo through the space. The lights are not very bright.

This is what the lobby looks like when there are no people in it.



If you turn left and walk across the lobby, you will find a bar. You can buy a drink at this bar, with alcohol or without, and candy, ice cream, or small snacks. Next to the bar is a water fountain where you can get water for free.



You can take your drink into the theatre during the performance, but can only eat food in the lobby.

If you want to, you can leave your coat on the coat rack. The coat rack is on your right as soon as you enter the lobby.

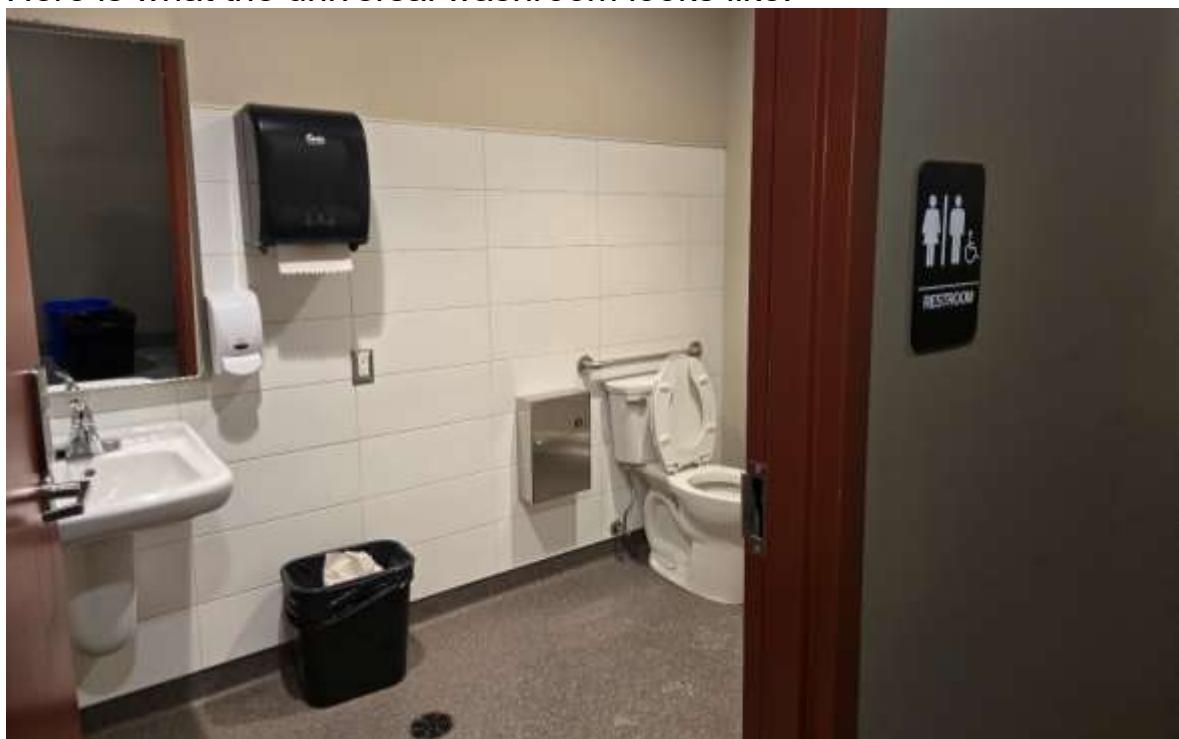


There are three bathrooms you can use. They are on the right side of the lobby, the same side as the coat racks. One is for women. One is for men. One is called universal or gender inclusive and can be used by anybody.



The men's and women's bathrooms each have one larger accessible stall. They have twist-handle faucets and manual push-button soap dispensers. They do not have automatic doors. The universal washroom is a gender-inclusive single room with a manual faucet at the sink.

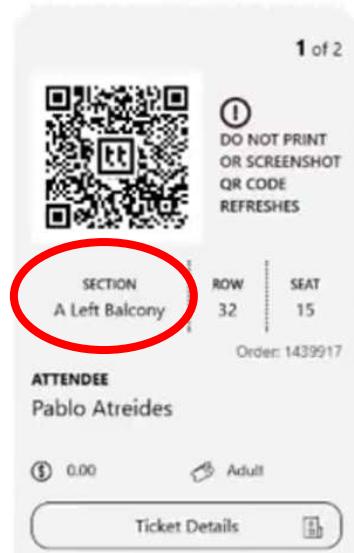
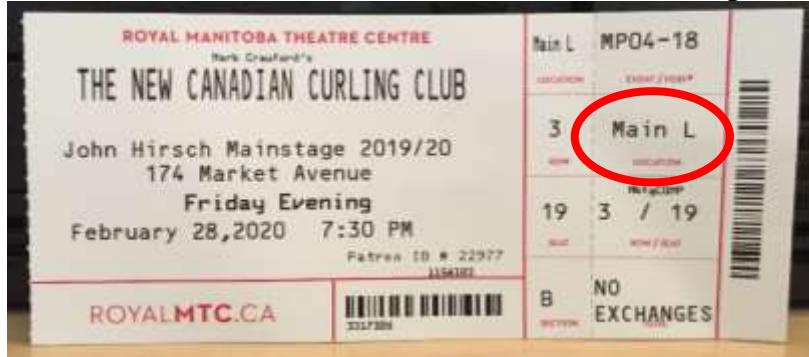
Here is what the universal washroom looks like:



Thirty (30) minutes before the play begins, the doors to the auditorium open so you can leave the lobby and go into the theatre. If you would prefer to stay in the lobby a little longer, you can.

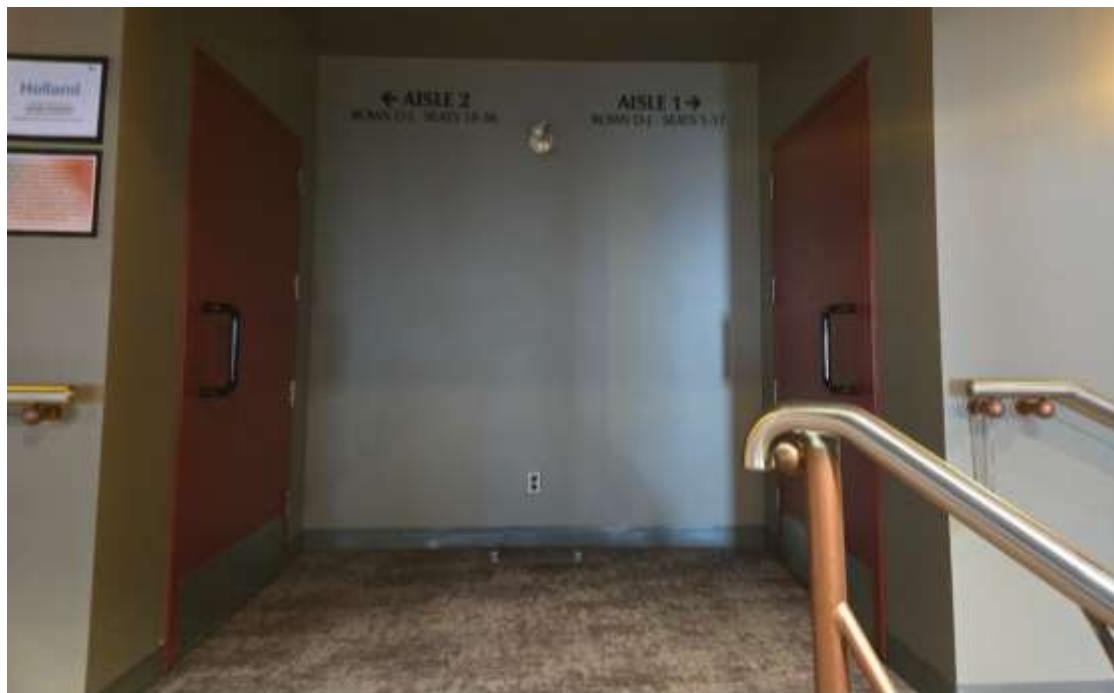
When you see the lights in the lobby turn off and on again, there are 5 minutes until the show. We recommend you go to your seat at this time.

Your ticket shows which door to enter through.

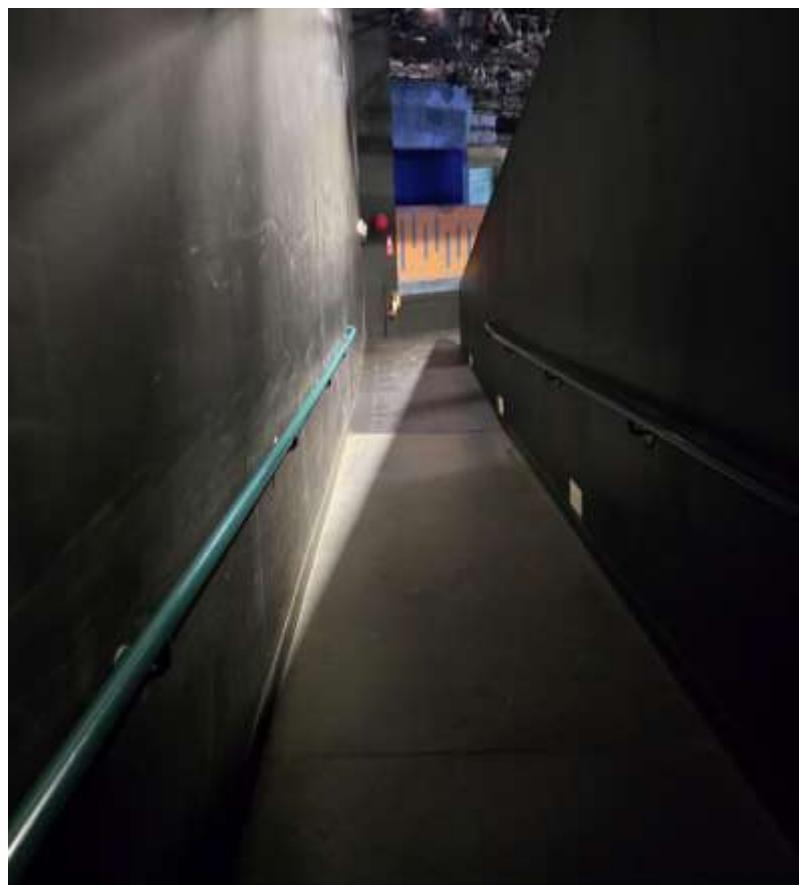
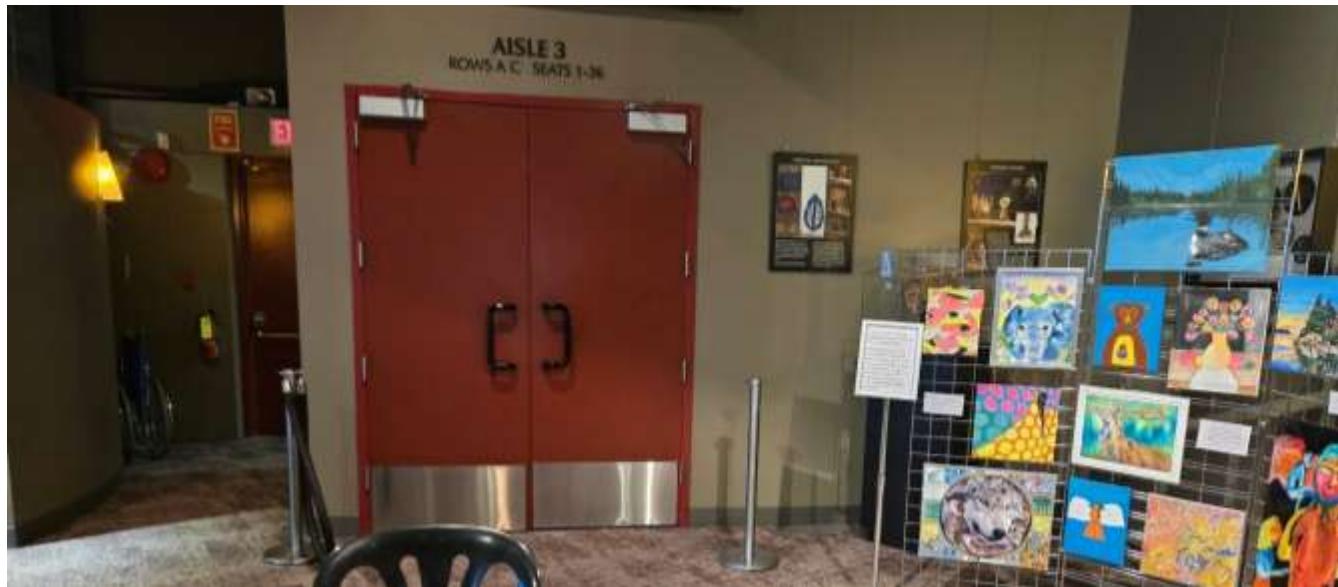


Match this to the signs that hang by each entrance. A volunteer at the entrance doors, called an **usher**, can also help you. The entrances are Aisle 1, 2, or 3.

Aisle 1 and 2 are up a few stairs in the lobby. Then you will go down more stairs to get to your row.



Aisle 3 is at ground level. You will go through a hallway to reach your seat.



## In The Theatre

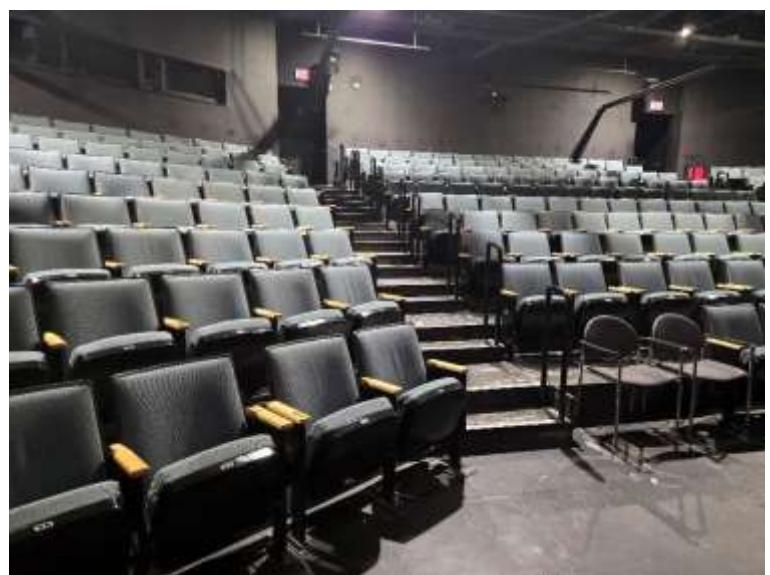
When you enter the theatre, the usher will give you booklet called a program, or “Ovation.” It has information about the play, the actors, and the people who worked on it.

The play takes place at the front of the large room, on the stage. There are rows of chairs where people sit, called the audience.

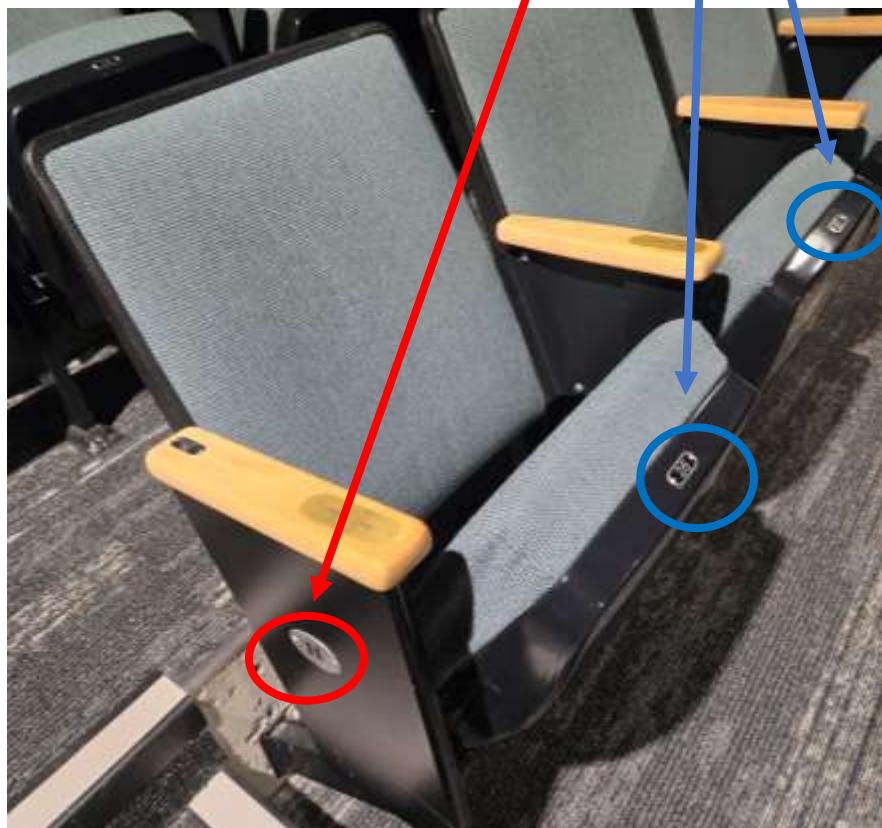
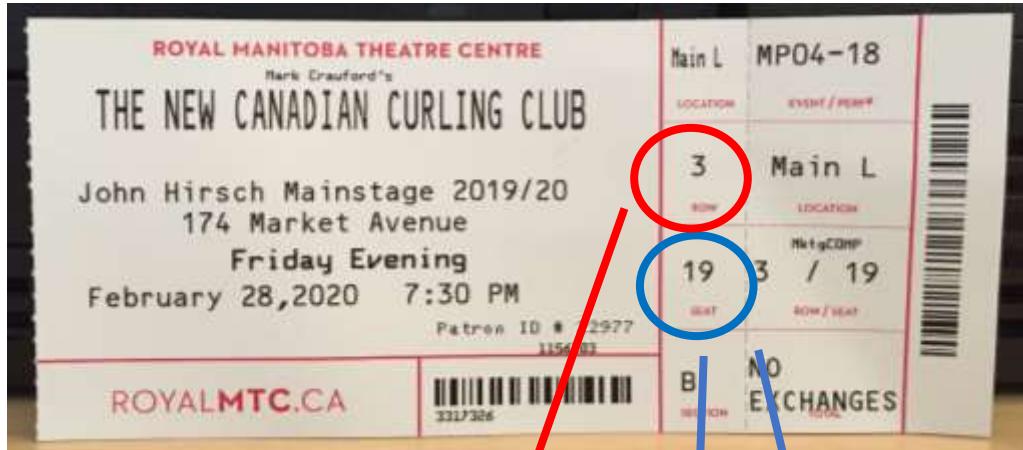
Here is what the audience seats look like if you are standing at the door of Aisle 1 or Aisle 2:



Here is what the seats of the audience look like from the front rows:



Your seat number is typed on your ticket. An usher can help you find it if needed.



The row letter is on the end of the row. The seat number is on each seat. Other people will be arriving to get to their seats as well. Please keep your feet down and any bags or coats out of the aisle as others enter.

You will know that the play is going to start when the lights over the audience dim, and there is an announcement over the speakers to turn off cell phones.

## General notes about plays

During the show, the lights in the audience will be off except for dim light in the aisles. The stage will be lit with lights that can change colour and get brighter or darker. The lights might turn off completely for a short time during the show. This is called a blackout. These only last a few seconds.

Please don't talk during the show; save your comments for the intermission break or after it's done! Please try not to leave during the show. If you must, you can, but when you come back you might have to sit in a different seat until there is a break so that you don't disturb the people around you.

During the play, a group of actors perform a story. It is their job to make everything that happens seem very real, but they are pretending. This means that there might sometimes be yelling between the actors. In some shows they might curse or swear. Actors might also pretend to drink alcohol or use drugs like marijuana in some shows. These are fake.

In some shows actors might fight with their bodies or weapons. This violence is also all staged by a fight director whose job it is to make sure that things look real but that nobody is really getting hurt. Actors who kiss or perform intimate moments also have the help of an intimacy director who makes sure that everything is staged carefully to keep everyone safe.

If there is certain language or content that you don't want to be surprised by, you can go to the website <https://royalmtc.ca/Your-Visit/Content-Guide.aspx> before you get your ticket and read the content warnings for the show you are hoping to see.

You might hear music from an orchestra, or noises from speakers in the theatre. There are warnings on the website about noises like gunshots if you want to be prepared. If the noises are too loud, you can cover my ears or bring headphones from home to wear.

Most plays, but not all of them, have an intermission about halfway through. This is a 20-minute break in the middle of the show. You can find out if the performance will have an intermission before you come by looking at the MTC website, calling the box office, or asking once you get to the theatre.

At the end of the play, the actors will bow and people will show they appreciate the performance by clapping their hands. People who really love the play might stand up.

When they are finished clapping, the lights will come back on and everyone will leave the theatre. The aisles might be crowded as everyone exits.

If you want to learn more about the actors or the story, you can look at the Ovation program. If you want more details about the world of the play, you can look at the Enrichment Guide online here: <https://royalmtc.ca/Education-Outreach/Resources/Study-Guides.aspx>

If you have questions about accessibility for a show, you can contact Ksenia Broda-Milian, Royal MTC's Education and Enrichment Manager, by email at [kbrodamilian@royalmtc.ca](mailto:kbrodamilian@royalmtc.ca) or by phoning 204 956 1340 extension 221.