



A Parent's Guide to Sensory-Friendly Performances

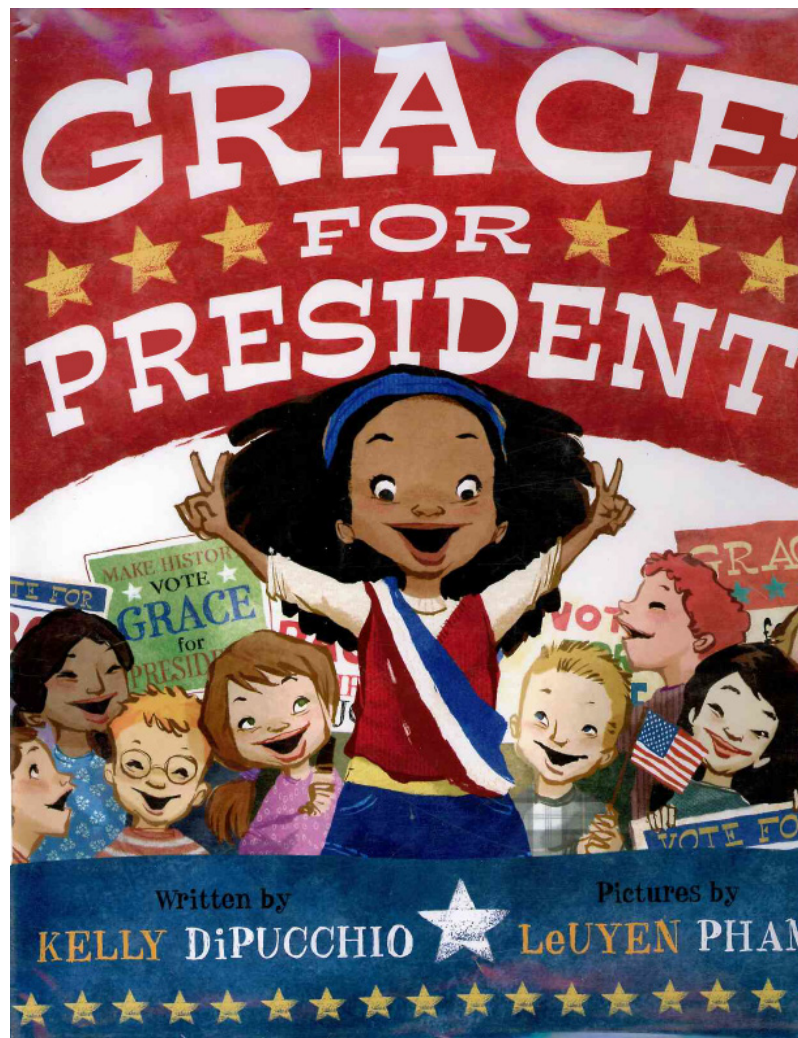
GRACE
FOR
PRESIDENT



Sunday, Oct. 9 at 4 p.m.

Take a Peek Into the Story of Grace for President

One day in class, Grace Campbell discovered there has never been a female president. “Where are the girls?” she asked, as her third-grade teacher rolls out a poster of all 44 U.S. presidents. Frustrated by the lack of female faces in the White House, Grace decides she wants to be president and inspires a school election. She seems the likely winner until the most popular boy runs against her. Through the throes of campaigning and pep rallies, service projects and posters, Grace and her classmates discover what it takes to be the best candidate and find the fun and hilarity in the wonderful world of politics! Join us in Mrs. Barrington’s classroom this election year!



A Bit About Sensory Friendly Performances at Children's Theatre of Charlotte

Sensory Friendly theatre is an approach to the audience experience that "softens" the environment. What does that mean exactly? Well, in general, we want to make 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. Here are some of the adjustments we will be making to create a more sensory-friendly environment that will be tailored to each show:

- Lights in the theatre will stay low during the show, instead of turning all the way off.
- The sound levels will be lowered when needed.
- Fewer tickets will be sold for the sensory-friendly performances so families have more room to move as needed.
- Fidgets, headphones, and weighted toys will be available to help children feel more organized and settled.
- Someone will be at the front of the theatre with glow sticks to help give families a warning when sensory-rich moments are coming up (like a loud sound or a change in lighting).
- A quiet room will be available if children need to leave the theatre to feel more settled or regroup during the show.

We've also provided several guides to help prepare your family for your visit to Children's Theatre of Charlotte - a visit guide that walks your family through our facility, a child guide to go with each performance, and a coordinating parent guide like this one to help 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!

*Yours Truly,
Your Friends at Children's Theatre of Charlotte*

Learning Opportunities and Sensory-Rich Moments in *Grace for President*



Meet Mrs. Barrington's third-grade class! They're going to learn about what happens during a presidential election!

Sensory-rich moments: The start of the show has lots of movement as the students greet each other and introduce themselves to the audience.



Let's meet some of the former presidents of the United States! What do you already know about the presidents of the United States?

Sensory-rich moment: Students ride on the trunks and dress up like presidents.



What does it take to be a good president? Let's see what Grace thinks about it. What are the things we can do to be good citizens?



What a fun way to remember that everyone's voice is important! *We're all important. How do we speak up for ourselves and make sure our voices are heard?*

Sensory-rich moment: This is a fun rap song with lots of dancing, stomping, costume changes and light changes.

Time to meet Thomas, the other candidate. He has lots of great qualities, and he's only 8 years old!

What are the most important qualities to look for in our leaders?

Sensory-rich moment: This song has lots of dancing and movement, and the tempo gets faster and faster at the end.

Mrs. Barrington is a great teacher. She helps Grace see some of her great qualities, too! *Who helps you remember your great qualities when you forget how awesome you are?*



How does the system of voting work? With an Electoral College, of course! *This is a great opportunity to look at how the numbers add up.*

Sensory-rich moment: This song has lots of dancing and movement.



Time to start the campaign for votes!
What qualities do the students mention that are important to you and your family?



The students hang out on the playground and talk more about the election.
How should we treat each other on the playground?

Sensory-rich moment: Thomas stands and swings while another student pushes him, and he goes down the slide twice toward the audience.



Who would you vote for: Grace or Thomas? They really want your vote!
It's important to listen to how candidates will lead their communities!

Sensory-rich moments: The students have campaign signs and will engage with the audience from the stage to try to get votes.



Here come the votes from the Electoral College. Who do you think will win the election?

Each state is different. For what is your state known? **Sensory-rich moment: The students come in costumes to cast their electoral votes, and there's a lot of movement as the song progresses. The last student is in a spotlight to cast the final votes.**

And the winner is....

Just kidding! We don't want to ruin the surprise!



There's only one winner, but Grace and Thomas are still friends! *It's important to be respectful, especially when we're competing with each other. How do we show good sportsmanship?*

Sensory-rich moments: Following the results of the election, the teacher will throw some confetti, the students will sing a great song with the lights low/spotlights, and then there's more movement as the cast ends the show together.

Thanks for joining us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for this special performance! Visit us at ctcharlotte.org for more information about other sensory-friendly performances available to you and your family this year!

