

SENSORY FRIENDLY HOLIDAY POPS

CONCERT GUIDE
December 14, 2024



EVENT INFORMATION

DATE: Saturday, December 14, 2024

LOCATION: Heinz Hall
600 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

TIME: 1:15-2:15 PM – Pre-concert activities
2:30-3:30 PM – Orchestra concert

COST: \$15 per ticket
All tickets are 100% refundable,
including day-of cancellations

CONCERT THEME

Sensory Friendly Holiday Pops celebrates the season of winter and the holidays of Hanukkah and Christmas. The concert features a guest soloist who will sing with the orchestra. The concert also features a ballet dancer and a choir of children.

You will hear music from the Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* and several Christmas carols including *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. The concert starts with Leroy Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*, a song that captures the magic of being outside during winter. You might already know some of the music on the concert. Other music on the concert might be new to you.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

When you arrive, you will be offered a map of the pre-concert activities around Heinz Hall. Earplugs will be available in the Grand Lobby (main floor). A Quiet Room will be available during the entire event in the Overlook Room (second floor) as a designated quiet space with relaxing activities and a live video feed of the performance. PSO staff, volunteers, and ushers will be available to answer questions and provide assistance.

Pre-Concert Activities

MAKER SPACE

Lower Level

Make a holiday gift for someone special. Decorate a mason jar and choose a cookie recipe to put inside. Guests of all ages are invited to participate!

HOLIDAY DISPLAYS & HEARING SERVICES

Main Floor

View the 25-foot Christmas tree and Hanukkah menorah in the Grand Lobby. Take a picture! While you are here, learn about healthy hearing with staff from the Center for Hearing & Deaf Services.

PSO MUSICIANS

Main Floor &
Second Floor

Meet members of the Pittsburgh Symphony and take an up-close look at their instruments.

QUIET ROOM

Second Floor

Enjoy relaxing activities in a quiet space at any time before or during the concert. The space will include a live video feed of the concert.

HOLIDAY GAMES

Second Floor

Play holiday games illustrated by local artist Emily Marko. You can make and spin a paper dreidel. Or you can try a matching game featuring characters from *The Nutcracker*.

MOVEMENT ACTIVITY

Third Floor

Participate in a holiday decoration relay! Each team will decorate a friend or family member with festive gift wrap, bows, and more. Friends from Attack Theatre will help. Seated and standing movement options will be available.

Concert Modifications

- Mitigation of sudden, loud sounds
- Mid-level lighting during the concert
- Leave and re-enter the concert at any time
- Change seats at any time to be closer to or further from the stage
- Talk, clap, sing, dance, and move throughout the concert
- Quiet room with relaxing activities and live video feed of the stage available to visit at any time before or during the concert
- Free fidgets, earplugs, and noise-cancelling headphones

Accessibility Services

- Family restroom (*lower level*)
- Accessible restrooms (*main floor and second floor*)
- Accessible seating and entrances
- Gluten-free, casein-free, sugar-free concessions
- ASL interpretation
- CART translation
- Hearing loop with T-coil
- Portable FM assistive listening devices
- Curbside assistance

HOW CAN I PREPARE?

We understand the effort that it can take to come to an event at Heinz Hall.

To help you and your family prepare, we have assembled materials to help you get ready for your trip and the artistic experience that awaits.

Learn About the Concert Experience

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| CONCERT PLAYLIST | Listen to samples of music that you will hear at the concert using our YouTube playlist . |
| INSTRUMENT GUIDE | Learn about the instruments you will see during your visit with the PSO. |
| SING-ALONG LYRICS | Practice the holiday songs we will sing together at the concert. |
| SENSORY FRIENDLY CONCERT VIDEO | Watch scenes from past Sensory Friendly concerts and pre-concert activities. |

When to Arrive

We recommend arriving at Heinz Hall at least 20 minutes before the 2:30 p.m. concert start time. We also encourage all guests to come early to try our pre-concert activities, which will be available from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.

What to Wear

Please wear whatever makes you feel comfortable! Some people dress up; some people wear jeans and other casual clothing. There is no dress code for this event.

What to Bring

Along with your tickets, personal items, and enthusiasm, please bring any electronic devices and other items needed for accommodation purposes. While we ask that you refrain from using devices with flash

photography, video recording, and audio recording during the concert, these devices are permissible in the lobby and front areas of the hall. We encourage you to share photos from your visit on social media, #psoHOLIDAY.

Parking

When you purchase your tickets, you may also buy prepaid parking in the Sixth & Penn parking garage across the street from Heinz Hall. On the day of the concert, real-time parking availability can be found on the [Park PGH website](#) or by using the Park PGH app.



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sensory

Friendly

HOLIDAY POPS

Byron Stripling, Conductor

December 14, 2024

2:30 p.m.

Anderson

Sleigh Ride

Herman

We Need a Little Christmas

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus

Rutter

What Sweeter Music

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus

Tchaikovsky

**"Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy"
from *The Nutcracker***

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre

Finkel & Cook

I Have a Little Dreidel

Byron Stripling

**Gillespie
& Coot**

Santa Claus is Comin' to Town

Santa Claus

Berlin

White Christmas

Byron Stripling & Mamie Parris

Adam

O Holy Night

Mamie Parris

Various

Holiday Sing-Along:

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Silent Night

Jingle Bells

Byron Stripling, Mamie Parris,

Santa Claus, & Pittsburgh Youth Chorus