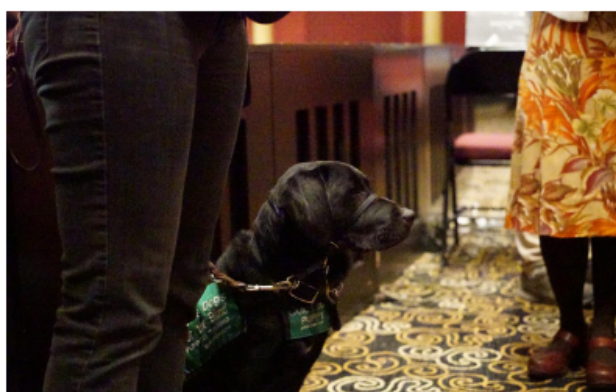
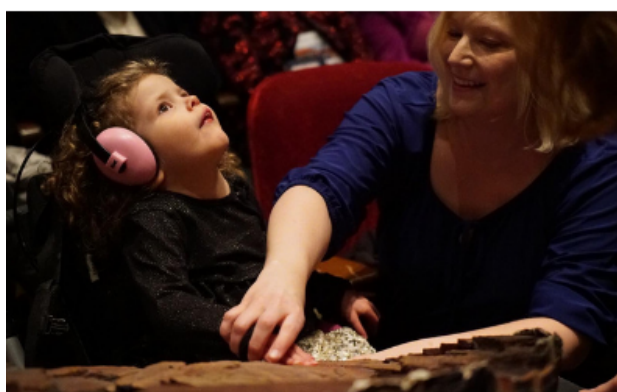
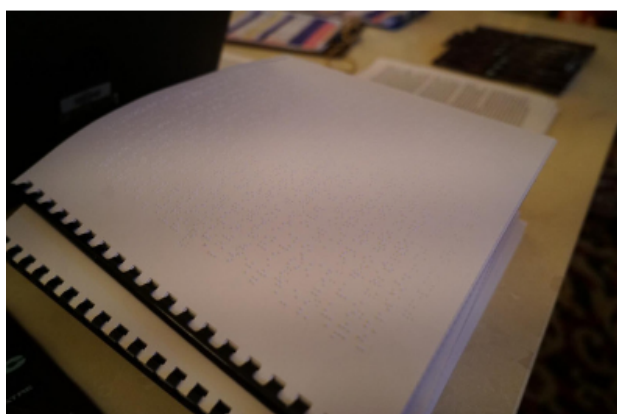


Blind and Visually Impaired Night at the Opera

The Magic Flute - March 6, 2019



Blind and Visually Impaired Night 2019

The Magic Flute

In collaboration with the Moran Eye Center and the Utah Council for the Blind, Utah Opera's Education Department hosted its 23rd annual Night at the Opera for blind and visually impaired members of our community at the March 6 dress rehearsal for Utah Opera's production of *The Magic Flute*. Events started at 6:00 pm with a presentation by Utah Opera Education Director Paula Fowler and Artistic Director Christopher McBeth. Audience members were given an opportunity to handle and feel many of the props and costume materials from the production, including the flute, magic bells, and fabric samples. They were given an oral description of the intricate costumes and set pieces. Unique for this year, patrons were also able to feel a model of the intricate set used for the production.

In addition to our blind and visual impaired patrons, 8 puppies and their trainers from Guide Dogs for the Blind - Salt Pups were allowed to attend the dress rehearsal to experience socialization in a new space as they train to be guide dogs.

Audience members were able to experience the dress rehearsal while Paula Fowler gave an audio description to which audience members could listen through headphones. Braille supertitles were provided by the Library for the Blind. Utah Opera also printed large-print plot synopses, as it does for every performance at the Capitol Theatre.

79 people attended as well as the 8 guide dogs in training with their owners. Here are a few of the comments that audience members shared in our post-event survey:

I don't live in Utah any longer, but just happened to be in town when your program was scheduled. My family signed me up and I'm very impressed with your program.

Thank you! This helped my friend enjoy the arts which she misses so much!

It was a great training opportunity for Jasper and I. He got to practice sleeping through the sound of the opera, all with a wagging tail just inches from his nose from another puppy from our puppy raising club. This is an experience he doesn't get on a day to day basis with me, and it was really exciting that he could experience it at Utah Opera. He also got to practice his polite greeting skills as many members of the audience enthusiastically asked to pet him throughout the night.