

# GLOBAL ARTS: PERFORMANCES FOR SCHOOLS UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST FINE ARTS CENTER



**The Underwater Bubble Show**  
**Thursday, November 30, 2017**  
**at 10 a.m., Fine Arts Center Concert Hall**

The University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Center Global Arts Performances for Schools Program is underwritten in part by PeoplesBank. A passion for what is possible



Study Guides for Teachers are also available on our website at: [fineartscenter.com-under](http://fineartscenter.com-under) On Stage select Global Arts Performances for Schools and select Resource Room.

# Welcome

## Information for Teachers and Parents

Our goal is to offer high quality performances for young people in a safe and comfortable setting. Please help us by following the guidelines below.



**Please arrive early.** Arrive at the theatre 30 minutes prior to the noted start time. Allow for travel time, parking, being seated and bathroom visits. It is important that we begin our performances on time so that all schools can meet their lunch and dismissal times.



**Be sure to check the location of the performance when making your bus reservations.** Performances take place in the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall or Bowker Auditorium in Stockbridge Hall. Please see the map at the end of this guide for driving and drop-off instructions.



Upon arrival your group will be greeted by an usher either at your bus or in the lobby. We do not issue individual tickets for performances. **Your usher will direct your group to their reserved seats.**



**Both theaters are accessible for Mobility Impaired members.** An infrared listening system is available in both theaters. Access parking is available adjacent to the theaters. An Access permit should be clearly visible in the parked vehicle. To better meet your needs, please inform us of any special seating requirements one month prior to the performance by calling **413-545-2116**.



For the comfort of all our seated patrons, **we request that backpacks, lunches and other gear be left on the bus.** Also, please remove all hats when seated in the theater.



**Food, drinks other than water, smoking, candy and gum are all not allowed in the theater.** The use of cell phones, portable music players, cameras or any other recording device, including non-flash photography and cell phone cameras, is strictly prohibited.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES.**

**Any teasing, disruptive and rude behavior by students towards each other or to others seated close-by during a performance is not acceptable.** Teachers and chaperones will be held responsible for any such incident reported to the Fine Arts Center staff. All complaints received will be forwarded to the schools involved. Repeated offences from the same school/s may result in cancellation of future reservations for shows.

# Theater Etiquette

Please review the following information with your students.

We expect everyone to be a good audience member.

**Good audience members...**

- Are good listeners
- Keep their hands and feet to themselves
- Do not talk or whisper during the performance
- Do not eat gum, candy, food or drink in the theater
- Turn off all cell phones and do not use portable music players, cameras or any other recording devices
- Stay in their seats during the performance
- Do not disturb their neighbors or other schools in attendance

**“Theatre is not theatre without an audience.”**

Live theatre differs from watching television or movies. **Remember that performers can see and hear you.** As an audience member you are a vital contributor to the performance experience that you and those around you will have. How you behave and how you react to the show will affect the artists’ performances. That is why each performance is a unique experience, it will never be repeated exactly the same. Talking to your neighbor, sending text messages, and other similar behaviors are distracting to the rest of the audience and to the artists.

**Please be respectful of the artists on stage performing for you by listening quietly. Of course, it is appropriate to react to what you are seeing – some things may make you laugh, gasp out loud, or you may be asked to respond by answering questions from the performers, singing along or clapping. Most of all, it is important to be present “in the moment” by being attentive and enjoy the performance. And of course – show your enthusiastic appreciation with applause at the end!**

## Curriculum Frameworks

This performance and guide provide opportunities for your students to explore a variety of topics. For your convenience we’ve listed applicable Massachusetts learning standards. This list is by no means exhaustive. Please use this list as a guide to assist with creating lesson plans.

**Curriculum Connections: Theater Arts, Music, Performance Art, Social Studies, World Culture, and History.**

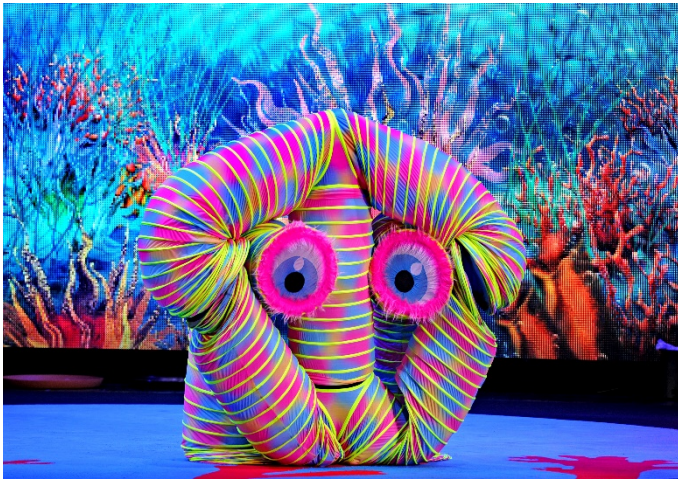
*Connections 6. Purposes & Meanings in the Arts.*

*Connections 7. Roles of Artists in Communities.*

*Connections 8. Concepts of Style, Stylistic Influence, and Stylistic Change.*

# About the Performance

## THE UNDERWATER BUBBLE SHOW



### PERFORMERS

Bubble Artists: Enrico Pezzoli & Dace Pecolli  
Juggler: Jakub Wójcik  
Contortionist: Valerijs Komisarenko  
Mime: Peteris Rimss  
Sand Art: Dace Pecolli  
Dancers/Acrobatic: Anna Sobera & Jakub Wójcik & Dorota Sobera  
Stage Character/Assistant: Zigurds Ržiščevs  
Backstage Assistant: Viesturs Vintens  
Video Operator: Silvestrs Silis  
Lighting Engineers: Raimonds Leikums, Janis Pukitis  
Audio/Video Engineer: Gints Murans

### STORYLINE

The plot is very simple and based on our modern everyday life; always too busy, filled with stress increased by abuse of mobile phones, tablets, PCs and other gadgets that allow us to make a faster connection... causing us to lose connection with reality.

Who doesn't recognize himself in the stylized shape of our fictitious Mr. B?

How many of us ever wanted, at least for a moment, to be able to stop time just to take a breath and daydream? The solution, in fact, is simple and accessible to us all: don't be afraid to let yourself go.

As the French poet Paul Valery wrote: "The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up."

With some references and quotes from classics such as "Pinocchio", "The Little Mermaid", "Beauty and the Beast", and "The Golden Fish" (not to mention "Peter Pan"), "B" is considered a modern fairy tale in which we can all find ourselves, without any age limits.





## THE PROJECT

“B” the show is produced with the help and support of the biggest authorities in the field of entertainment and theatre in Latvia. A well balanced blend of drama, mime, dance, puppetry, juggling, contortionism, sand art and magic, with the amazing beauty of soap bubbles make “B” unique and perfect for any audience.

The visual impact of the show is enhanced by the original music of Valdis Zilveris (the most famous Latvian composer of soundtracks for theatre plays), the costumes specially designed by E.Patmalniece (popular fashion designer and main costume designer of the Latvian National Opera) and the artistic makeup created by Mārīte Gaidele (main make-up artist of the LNT Latvian Television).

Adults and children alike will enjoy the show, thanks to the high interactivity and audience participation, the extremely visual content (there are no spoken words as all the show is musical) and the different levels of interpretations that will make adults think and children smile.

Produced by “Brinum-X” (a Latvian company with over 20 years of experience in the entertainment business) and directed by Italian theatre director, actor and bubble artist Enrico Pezzoli with the cooperation of performer and bubble artist Dace Pecoli, “B” is the first bubble show that gives meaning and new dimension to the art of soap bubbles, bringing it to an unsurpassed level, It may be one of the most exciting shows that the audience will ever witness.



# About Latvia



## Intro

Latvia, officially the Republic of Latvia, is a country located in northeast Europe and is one of the three Baltic States. The country has a long history of being invaded by many groups and countries who want their land, but it has become a society of vibrant traditions.

Population: 1.96 Million

Capital: Riga

Languages: The official language of Latvia is Latvian, but Russian, Polish, Ukrainian, Lithuanian and Belarusian are also common.

Currency: Euro



Latvian Flag

## Geography and Climate

Compared to the United States, Latvia's land mass is slightly larger than West Virginia. Latvia has many neighbors. To the north, Latvia's neighbor is Estonia. To the south, Latvia's neighbors are Lithuania and Belarus. To the east of the country is Russia.

Latvia's western border includes 331.812 miles of coastline stretching along the Baltic Sea. The country's climate is similar to the US. Latvia is in the northern hemisphere, the warmest days are in July and its coldest days are usually in January or February—the same as what we experience in the Northeastern USA. Like the United States, Latvia experiences all four seasons: fall, winter, spring and summer. Latvia's winters are moderate and most seasons can be considered wet and rainy. Latvia boasts the rarest ecosystems: maritime and lush forests that have been largely untouched by the civilized world.

## History

Latvia has a long history of wars, invasions, occupations and rulers since 3000 B.C. From 3000 BC to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Finno-Ugric and Baltic people migrated to what is now Latvia and lived in harmony until the Germans invaded during the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The Germans founded the present day capital, Riga. Between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century, Germany and Russia fought for power in Latvia until Russia won in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The country was under Russian rule until 1917 when Germany invaded Latvia again during World War I. After fighting in World War I, Latvians fought for independence in the Russian Revolution of 1917. On November 18, 1918, the Republic of Latvia was established by the People's Council of Latvia and declared independence.

After many attempts of invading and conquering the newly established Latvia, Latvia and Russia signed a Peace Treaty on August 11, 1920 ending the War of Independence and Russia renounced all claims to Latvia. However, during WWII, Latvia was given back to Russia and was invaded again by the Germans. After the war many Russians immigrated to Latvia. Until 1988, when the Latvian Popular Front emerged and won independence, the Russian government heavily influenced Latvian affairs. In 1990, the Soviet Union tried to retake Riga but failed and this allowed the Latvian legislature to declare full independence and recognized as its own country. Latvia is a part of and recognized by many world organizations most prominently the Council of Europe, the EuroZone and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

## Culture

Oftentimes considered the European Capital of Culture, Latvia has many rich and diverse ethnicities within its borders. People from Russia, Belarus, the Ukraine, Poland, and Lithuania call Latvia their home. With all these different groups within the country, Latvian culture is very diverse and takes from other traditions. Art, dance and music is influenced by the surrounding European countries, but represents the unity of Latvia people.

This unity is on display at The Latvian Song and Dance Festival recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The Latvian Song and Dance festival happens every five years and is an important event in Latvian culture and social life. Latvia is nicknamed "the singing nation" because almost all Latvians have sung in a choir or a singing group in their lifetime. Folk songs are national treasures that surround tradition, literature and symbolism. The "daina" (folksong) is a symbol that has shaped and embodied Latvian national identity for two centuries.

Traditional Latvian folk dance portrays the life in a rural community and important events in a person's life. The dances, based on a variation of polka and gallops, feature costumes made of wool and linen with designs that represent the specific regions of Latvia from whence the dancers originate.

Visual Art in Latvia is considered contemporary. Most pieces of art are Nordic and poetic with refined technique. Latvian art is also very political reflecting different political eras during the country's history: post-soviet, pro west, apolitical or en contraire.

## Food

Latvian cuisine originates from a harsh climate, customs brought by German crusaders and the food shortages under the Soviet Rule. The result is a cuisine rich in calories and fat. Potatoes, wheat, barely, peas, curd and beans are staples of the Latvian diet and at least one of these is found in a dish. The most popular dishes in Latvian cuisine are hors d'oeuvres which include kotletes (meat patties), skaku kapostu zupa (cabbage soup), Alexander Torte (raspberry or cranberry strips of pastry), and smoked salmon or trout.

# Learning Activities

## SCIENCE AND ILLUSION

The Underwater Bubble show uses optical illusion in some of the acts. The UMass Physics Department has a simple demonstration you can do at home to explore one of these illusions using the concept called index of refraction

Description: This demonstration shows that an object with the same index of refraction as a liquid will look transparent when immersed in it.

Equipment:

Lots of Wesson vegetable oil

A large Pyrex beaker with as few markings as possible

A small Pyrex beaker with as few markings as possible

Paper towels

Procedure:

Spread a few paper towels down where this demo will be used.

Fill the large beaker up with Wesson vegetable oil, taking into account that the small beaker will also be going in later (so do not fill it up all the way).

Demonstration Procedure:

Show students the large Pyrex beaker. Explain that it has Wesson vegetable oil in it.

Show them the small Pyrex beaker. Fill it up with the Wesson oil.

Lower the small beaker into the large beaker, and note that it “disappears”.

This is because the index of refraction of pyrex and wesson vegetable oil is about the same.

Since the light does not bend, it is as if there is nothing there, which makes it seem like there is only oil.

Pour the vegetable oil back into the main Wesson container.

You will need to clean the Pyrex beakers out with soap and water.

The UMass Physics Department in partnership with Heath Hatch and the students in the UMass Science Outreach Club connect with local public schools to provide demonstrations of science principles in the classroom. To arrange for a visit to your school please contact them at:

sciout@stuaf.umass.edu



# Learning Activities

Make your own super bubble solution. The addition of glycerin makes the bubble walls stronger and reduces evaporation (which causes bubbles to pop!).

## Formula 1

2/3 cup dishwashing soap (Dawn Ultra seems to give the best results)  
1 gallon water  
2 to 3 tablespoons of glycerin (available at most pharmacies)

## Formula 2

1 cup Ultra Ivory Blue  
12 cups water  
3/4 Tablespoon glycerin

## Formula 3

1/3 cup commercial bubble solution (the stuff that comes with a wand)  
1/3 cup water  
1/3 cup glycerin

Formula 3 is a much heavier solution and is good for make bubble sculptures using multiple bubbles. .

Gently stir the ingredients together and leave the solution in an open container overnight. The solution seems to get better with age. Use straws with a loop of string attached as a bubble wand.

There are many learning activities on line supporting Bubble Science. Here are some sites:

Hipscham, Ron. Exploratorium. 1995. <http://www.exploratorium.edu/ronh/bubbles/bubbles.html>

Retrieved 10/20/17.

Casey, Carle. Bubblemania: Science Art & Comedy.

<http://www.bubblemania.com/science/studyguide2010.pdf>

Retrieved 10/20/17.

Fandom Lifestyle Community. Soap Bubble Wiki.

[http://soapbubble.wikia.com/wiki/Soap\\_Bubble\\_Wiki](http://soapbubble.wikia.com/wiki/Soap_Bubble_Wiki)

Retrieved 10/20/17

## PARKING AND DIRECTIONS FOR THE FINE ARTS CENTER'S **CONCERT HALL and RAND THEATER**

School Buses: Students should be dropped-off at **Haigis Mall** off of Massachusetts Avenue. University Security will direct buses to an appropriate parking lot during the performance (typically by the football stadium). **PLEASE BE SURE YOUR BUS DRIVER KNOWS THAT ALL PERFORMANCES LAST APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR AND THEY SHOULD RETURN A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE ANTICIPATED END TIME.** If drivers are not with the buses, they may miss the radio call from security asking them to return for pick-up, resulting in unnecessary delays returning to your school.

Individual cars: If necessary, individuals may drop-off students with a chaperone at Haigis Mall (you will be directed by security to the mid-point turn of Haigis Mall – see map) prior to parking. **We recommend parking in the Campus Center Parking Garage to avoid searching for a metered space.** It is a five-minute walk to the Concert Hall. All other available parking during weekdays is at meters. Available lots and pricing (current as of 1/1/07) are listed below:

**Parking in the Garage is available to our patrons at a discounted rate of \$1.** To receive this rate you **MUST** give the Garage attendant a parking pass. To receive your pass, please call our office to let us know that you will be arriving by car. Parking passes are sent with the invoices. Please call (413) 545-2116 if you didn't receive one.

**Parking meters are enforced Monday – Friday, 7AM – 5PM. Meter rates are \$1.00 per hour.**

**Parking Garage** – near Campus Center, across from the Mullins Center off Commonwealth Avenue

**Lot 34** – Behind Visitors Center with 3, 5 & 10-hour meters available

**Haigis Mall** – 2 hour maximum on meters

**Lot 62** - Adjacent to Fernald Hall with 3 hour maximum on meters, limited spaces available.

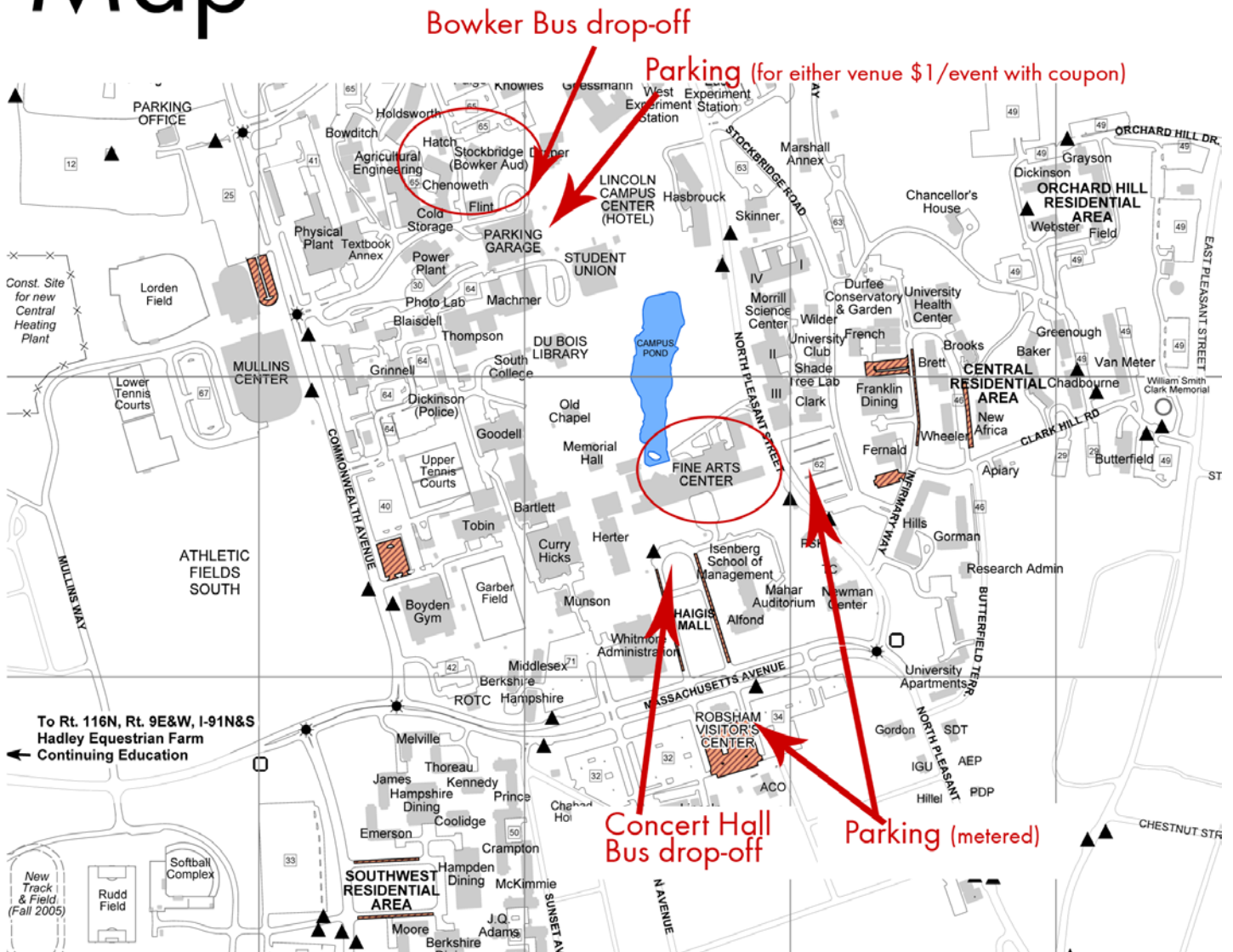
**From the North:** (Vermont, Greenfield) I-91 south to Route 116. Follow signs on 116 “To the University of Massachusetts.” Exit ramp leads to Massachusetts Avenue. Turn left (east) on to Massachusetts Avenue toward the campus. Continue through one light and watch for Lot 34 by the Visitors Center on your right and the entrance to Haigis Mall on your left.

**From the South:** (Springfield, Holyoke) I-91 north to Route 9. Turn right (east) on Route 9 over the Coolidge Bridge and through Hadley. Turn left (north) on Route 116 (across from Staples) heading toward campus. Turn right at first exit at “University of Massachusetts,” then bear right onto Massachusetts Avenue toward campus. Continue through one light and watch for Lot 34 by the Visitors Center on your right and the entrance to Haigis Mall on your left.

**From the West:** (Northampton, Pittsfield) Route 9 east through Northampton and over Coolidge Bridge. Follow remaining directions under “From the South”.

**From the East:** (Belchertown, Ludlow) North on Routes 21, 181 or 202 to Route 9 into Amherst. Right on to North Pleasant Street (main downtown intersection), north through center of town. Turn left at Triangle Street (Bertucci's Restaurant on your right), rejoining North Pleasant Street. To reach Lot 34 and Haigis Mall continue on main road, which becomes Massachusetts Avenue. Haigis Mall will be on your right, Lot 34 on your left.

# Map



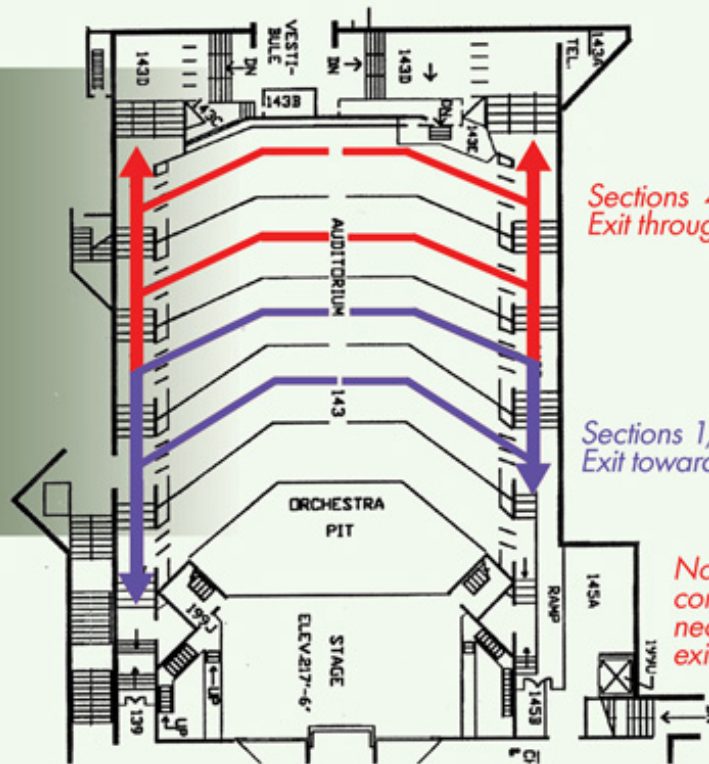
For Concert Hall, Rand Theater and Bowker Auditorium – Patrons traveling by car are encouraged to park in the parking garage. Discounted parking is available in the garage for \$1. A parking permit is required for discounted parking in the garage. Please call the Arts & Educational Programs Office if you require permits at (413) 545-2116. All other parking on campus is at available meters at the rate of \$1 per hour. Parking is enforced Monday – Friday, 7AM – 5 PM.

Buses will drop-off students as indicated on map. Buses will be given parking instructions by Campus Security.

# Evacuation Procedures

In the event of an emergency requiring evacuation of the building, procedures are in place to ensure that the audience can exit safely.

Concert Hall



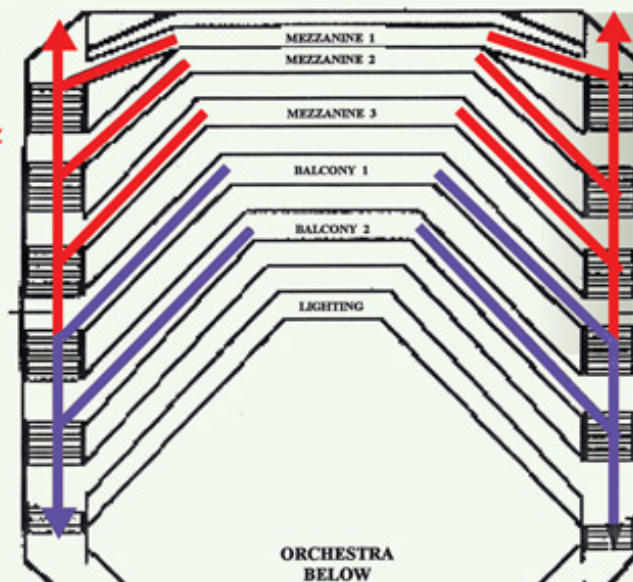
Sections 4, 5, 6  
Exit through the lobby.

Sections 1, 2, 3 & Pit  
Exit toward stage.

Note: Interior house conditions may necessitate alternate exit routes.

Mezzanine 1, 2, 3  
Exit rear through lobby.

Balconies 1, 2 exit toward stage, up two flights and down interior fire escape



Balconies