

2024



Accessibility Guide

Acknowledgement

Art is one of the sheer joys of life. Whether it is slapping some paint on canvas, bellowing a few scripted lines to an audience, or grooving to an infectious tune, there is no quicker way to touch happiness than through art.

Every child has a right to participate in art, yet not all children have ready access to it. Some can be hypersensitive to different sensory experiences, which can lead to high anxiety and an aversion to taking part in artistic experiences.

The AWESOME Festival has recognised this and has taken action through the development of their Accessibility Guide. This guide provides information that can help guide parents to the most appropriate shows for their children, and ensures that this wonderful festival is inclusive to all.

Congratulations to the AWESOME Festival for this pioneering guide, and I encourage everyone in the autism community to go and see the wonders on offer.



Professor Andrew Whitehouse

Angela Wright Bennett Professor of Autism Research Telethon Kids and University of Western Australia; Director, CliniKids



Welcome!

We hope that this guide helps you to make decisions about the best events for your family to attend at the 2024 AWESOME Festival.

Our goal in creating this guide is to provide extra support, catering to the needs of all our bright young things. We have gathered information about all of our events within the festival program and listed any positive and negative triggers that could be of attention in providing the most comfortable, joyful experience for all.

Ultimately, it is parents and carers who are best placed to understand their child's needs and responses. This guide aims to support you in these decisions.

Using this Guide: Within the guide you will find a rating grid at the bottom of each page. We encourage parents and carers to utilise the grid to measure the difficulty of each activity between 1 and 5 (1 being 'easy peasy' and 5 being 'extremely difficult'). This may assist in making decisions about what to see and do, appropriate to the individual needs of your child.

Companion Cards: If you hold a companion card, you are entitled to one free admission along with a paid ticket to all of our events. If you have any issues or questions regarding ticketing, please contact our office during business hours on **(08) 9328 9666**, or send your enquiry through to ticketing@awesomearts.com

Our Team: If you find yourself in need of assistance, please feel confident to approach one of our team (wearing an AWESOME Festival t-shirt or pink volunteer vest).

It may be something as simple as needing to get into a venue early, ensuring that you get seating that is appropriate, assistance leaving a venue during a show or finding a quiet spot to chill out. To make it easy, all you need to do is approach a team member and say that you have a child with additional needs. Our team will assist you in any way that they can.

Quiet Zones: Sometimes the Festival 'vibe' can be overwhelming or over-stimulating for children and you just need somewhere quiet to wind down. For those who need some time away, some suggested quiet zones on the festival site:

- State Library of WA, Story Place, Mezzanine Level (access via lift/stairs)
- Urban Orchard (outdoors, opposite the Art Gallery of WA)
- State Theatre Centre, Heath Ledger Theatre foyer, Level 2 (behind alcove)

Parking Offer:

Thanks to City of Perth Parking, you can get **5 hours of parking for \$9** if you park at the State Library or Cultural Centre CPP car parks between Tuesday 24 - Saturday 28 September.

To redeem this offer, simply validate your parking ticket at the AWESOME Information Booth at the State Theatre Centre of WA (open from 9:30am - 3pm daily). Normal rates apply after 5-hours.

If you have any questions about the guide, please feel free to contact us.

Team AWESOME

(08) 9328 9666 | admin@awesomearts.com




Ukulele Fever

WOODY CLARK (VIC)

Have you ever wanted to play ukelele? Here's your chance! Learn a new song with our musician and many colourful ukuleles.

All
ages

DATES: Tues 24 September
TIMES: 9am - 11am
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: Walk-up, anytime
VENUE: Foyer
GENRE: Music
THEMES: Music, participation, Australian animals, bush dancing.

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Blackout (audience)  | Children invited on stage  | Distinctive smells  | Intermission/break - N/A |
| Lighting level Outdoors, natural light | Artist goes into audience  | Special effects  | Introduction 3 minutes |
| Flashing lights  | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) Ukuleles handed out to audience | Textures  | Children need to sit in one place  |
| Repetitive noises  | Undertake direct movement Heel and toe dance | Balloons  | Appropriate to make noise/move around  |
| Drums  | Participate in groups/pairs  | Characters express anger  | |
| High-pitched tones Accordion high notes | Parent/carer can support in participation  | Dialogue driven Dialogue between songs | |
| Background sound  | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate  | Props Ukuleles | |
| Loud unexpected sounds  | | | |





Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre (BREC)



2 Blair Street, Bunbury WA 6230

Entrance: Main entrance through glass doors. Box office entrance through automatic doors.

Lifts: Lift access available.

Toilets: Toilets are located on all levels. The Cube toilets are signed clearly and accessible toilets / ambulant toilets are available. They are located down a short corridor to your immediate left if exiting from the Lift or down the short corridor immediately in front of you as you come up the stairs to our Sky Bar / Cube Theatre area.

Drop off point: There is drop off availability for people if they want to pull up directly out the front of the venue. They simply need to pull over and turn on their hazard lights while disembarking from vehicles and can then move off to find a suitable car park.

Parking: There are two car parks at the front of the BREC building.

- Entering from Clifton St there are two ACROD bays by the front of BREC Box Office.
- Entering from Symmons Street, there are five ACROD bays close to the building.

Transport: Public transport is highly recommended as parking can be limited. To plan your journey, visit <https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/Journey-Planner>

For more information regarding accessibility at BREC, please visit <https://www.bunburyentertainment.com/faqs-section/>

Bubble Canteen

HOMUNCULUS THEATRE (QLD)

Step into a realm of enchantment at the Bubble Canteen where a mesmerising spectacle awaits! Delight in the magic as an incredible 12,000 bubbles burst into existence every minute.

All
ages

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: 10:30am & 12:30pm
BOOKINGS: FREE! No bookings required
DURATION: 30 minutes
GENRE: Installation
THEMES: Friendship, joy, play, laughter, resilience, connection, comedy

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|--|---|---|
| Total Blackout (audience) ✗ | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells Smoke fluid and bubble fluid | Intermission/break ✗ |
| Lighting level Outdoors, daylight | Artist goes into audience ✓ | Special effects Smoke haze and bubbles | Introduction ✗ |
| Flashing lights LED lights | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) ✗ | Textures ✓ | Children need to sit in one place ✗ |
| Repetitive noises ✓ | Undertake direct movement Encouraged to move around | Balloons ✗ | Appropriate to make noise/move around ✓ |
| Drums ✗ | Participate in groups/pairs ✗ | Characters express anger ✗ | |
| High-pitched tones ✗ | Parent/carer can support in participation ✓ | Dialogue driven Non-verbal performance | |
| Background sound ✓ | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate ✓ | Props ✗ | |
| Loud unexpected sounds ✓ | | | |



Creative Hub: Crafty Nannas

ANNICK AKANNI (WA)

Learn knitting, felting and weaving skills in this intergenerational activity! Join textile artist, Annick Akanni, for fun with yarn looms, stitching, felting, textile weaving, and more!

All
ages

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: 10am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 2pm
BOOKINGS: FREE! No bookings required.
DURATION: Anytime, walk-up activity
GENRE: Walk-up activity
THEMES: Intergenerational arts

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|--|--|---|--|
| Total Blackout (audience)  | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells  | Intermission/break N/A |
| Lighting level Outdoors, daylight | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects  | Introduction  |
| Flashing lights  | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) Craft activities | Textures Fabrics, knitting yarn | Children need to sit in one place  |
| Repetitive noises  | Undertake direct movement  | Balloons  | Appropriate to make noise/move around  |
| Drums  | Participate in groups/pairs  | Characters express anger  | |
| High-pitched tones  | Parent/carer can support in participation  | Dialogue driven  | |
| Background sound  | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate  | Props  | |
| Loud unexpected sounds Potential crowd noise | | | |



Creative Hub: The Mess Hall

SAMANTHA HUGHES (WA)

Join artist, Samantha Hughes in the Mess Hall, a sensory play space for children to explore their senses with a range of tactile activities.

5 and under

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: 10am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 2pm
BOOKINGS: FREE! No bookings required.
DURATION: Anytime, walk-up activity
GENRE: Walk-up activity
THEMES: Create stories through art

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|--|--|--|
| Total Blackout (audience) ✗ | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells Fresh herbs (mint, basil, rosemary), plastic vinyl | Intermission/break N/A |
| Lighting level | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects ✗ | Introduction ✗ |
| Flashing lights ✗ | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) Paint and construct things | Textures Kneading and sculpting dough, sticky glue and sticks, soft fabrics, crinkly and crumpled paper | Children need to sit in one place ✗ |
| Repetitive noises ✗ | Undertake direct movement ✗ | Balloons ✗ | Appropriate to make noise/move around ✓ |
| Drums ✗ | Participate in groups/pairs ✗ | Characters express anger ✗ | |
| High-pitched tones ✗ | Parent/carer can support in participation ✓ | Dialogue driven ✗ | |
| Background sound ✗ | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate ✓ | Props ✗ | |
| Loud unexpected sounds Potential crowd noise | | | |



Clay Puppet Making

SKY RIVER (WA)

Have you ever wondered what wild and wonderful characters may be eagerly awaiting to escape from your fingertips? Bring your imagination to life with Folk of the Puppetree and create your own unique clay puppet-face!

Ages
7-12

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: Visit www.bunburyentertainment.com/whats-on/awesome-festival-bunbury-hub/ for times
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: 90 minutes
GENRE: Visual Art
THEMES: explore creativity and characters, drawing a puppet design, interacting with different styles of puppets and exploring faces.

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|---|--|---|
| Total Blackout (audience)  | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells Smell of clay | Intermission/break Workshop runs for 90 minutes, broken into 3 parts |
| Lighting level Indoor, fully lit | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects Puppets of various sizes | Introduction 15 minutes |
| Flashing lights  | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) Puppet design, clay face making | Textures Clay puppets | Children need to sit in one place Floor and table spaces offered for art |
| Repetitive noises  | Undertake direct movement Guidance will be offered while hand sculpting faces from clay | Balloons  | Appropriate to make noise/move around  |
| Drums  | Participate in groups/pairs  | Characters express anger Children's puppets may express anger on their face |  |
| High-pitched tones  | Parent/carer can support in participation  | Dialogue driven Workshop dialogue driven with visual aides | |
| Background sound- Gentle pre-recorded harp music to calm the mood | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate  | Props Variety of puppet characters and sizes | |
| Loud unexpected sounds Initial intro session will include a few drama warmups | | | |



Drum Circle & Percussion Workshop

CHRISSY MADDISON (WA)

Get ready to make some noise with Chrissy Maddison as she guides participants through fun, interactive drumming exercises on Djembe drums.



DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: Visit www.bunburyentertainment.com/whats-on/awesome-festival-bunbury-hub/ for times
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: 30 minutes
GENRE: Music
THEMES: Drumming, rhythm and music making, participation, communication, community, recycling and sustainability.

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|--|---|---|
| Total Blackout (audience) | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells | Intermission/break N/A |
| Lighting level Daylight/indoor electric lighting | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects | Introduction 5 minutes |
| Flashing lights | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) | Textures Percussion making will use various craft materials. | Children need to sit in one place |
| Repetitive noises | Undertake direct movement | Balloons | Appropriate to make noise/move around |
| Drums | Participate in groups/pairs | Characters express anger | |
| High-pitched tones | Parent/carer can support in participation | Dialogue driven | |
| Background sound | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate | Props | |
| Loud unexpected sounds | | | |




Imagination Station

Siobhan Maiden (WA)

Unlock the potential of your imagination through creative and dramatic play in this improvisation workshop for primary school aged children run by local artist Siobhan Maiden.

All
ages

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: Visit www.bunburyentertainment.com/whats-on/awesome-festival-bunbury-hub/ for times
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: 45 minutes
GENRE: Drama
THEMES: Improvisation, transforming everyday items into props that are not what they were not intended for.

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|--|--|--|--|
| Total Blackout (audience)  | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells  | Intermission/break N/A |
| Lighting level Indoors, fully lit | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects  | Introduction  |
| Flashing lights  | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things)  | Textures A range of costumes and props are available to choose from | Children need to sit in one place  |
| Repetitive noises  | Undertake direct movement  | Balloons  | Appropriate to make noise/move around  |
| Drums  | Participate in groups/pairs  | Characters express anger Children may develop/construct characters that demonstrate anger, but this will be contained | |
| High-pitched tones  | Parent/carer can support in participation  | Dialogue driven  | |
| Background sound  | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate  | Props Household items and costumes | |
| Loud unexpected sounds  | | | |



Kids Market Stalls

Local kids aged 14 and under will be selling their homemade creations such as jewellery, greeting cards, scrunchies, candles and more!

All
ages

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: 10am - 2pm
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: Anytime, walk-up activity
GENRE: Visual Art
THEMES: Entrepreneurship, homemade creations

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|--|--|---|
| Total Blackout (audience) X | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells Some stalls will be selling candles | Intermission/break N/A |
| Lighting level Outdoors, daylight | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects X | Introduction N/A |
| Flashing lights X | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) Invited to view stalls and purchase items | Textures X | Children need to sit in one place X |
| Repetitive noises X | Undertake direct movement X | Balloons X | Appropriate to make noise/move around X |
| Drums X | Participate in groups/pairs X | Characters express anger N/A | |
| High-pitched tones X | Parent/carer can support in participation ✓ | Dialogue driven N/A | |
| Background sound X | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate ✓ | Props N/A | |
| Loud unexpected sounds X | | | |



Musical Moments

ELIZA-ROSE KAN (WA)

Facilitated by a Registered Music Therapist, Eliza-Rose Kan, the Musical Moments program from St John of God Bunbury Hospital encourages children to play, explore, learn and develop through engaging in fun musical activities.

Ages
0 - 4

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: Visit www.bunburyentertainment.com/whatson/awesome-festival-bunbury-hub/ for times
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: 30 minutes
GENRE: Music
THEMES: Music, increase confidence and social skills

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Total Blackout (audience) ✗ | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells ✗ | Intermission/break N/A |
| Lighting level Indoors, fully lit | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects ✗ | Introduction ✗ |
| Flashing lights ✗ | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) ✓ | Textures Instruments and parachute | Children need to sit in one place ✗ |
| Repetitive noises ✓ | Undertake direct movement ✓ | Balloons ✗ | Appropriate to make noise/move around ✓ |
| Drums ✓ | Participate in groups/pairs ✓ | Characters express anger ✗ | |
| High-pitched tones ✗ | Parent/carer can support in participation ✓ | Dialogue driven ✗ | |
| Background sound ✗ | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate ✓ | Props - musical instruments ✓ | |
| Loud unexpected sounds ✓ | | | |



Silent Disco

This is a high-energy, interactive event where kids can dance like nobody is watching—because they're in their own world of music!

All
ages

DATES: Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
TIMES: 10am - 12pm, 12:30pm - 2pm
BOOKINGS: FREE, no bookings required
DURATION: Anytime, walk up activity
GENRE: Music
THEMES: Choose your own groove, dance to the beat of your own drum

| Lighting and Sound | Interactivity and Participation | Senses, Emotions and Effects | Attention Span |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Blackout (audience)  | Children invited on stage N/A | Distinctive smells  | Intermission/break Come and stay for as short or long as you like |
| Lighting level Disco lights with mirror ball | Artist goes into audience N/A | Special effects Mirror ball | Introduction N/A |
| Flashing lights  | Manual activity (e.g. read, draw, sing, paint, construct things) - Make it as loud or soft as you want on your headphones | Textures  | Children need to sit in one place  |
| Repetitive noises  | Undertake direct movement  | Balloons  | Appropriate to make noise/move around  |
| Drums  | Participate in groups/pairs  | Characters express anger  |  |
| High-pitched tones  | Parent/carers can support in participation  | Dialogue driven  | |
| Background sound  | Capacity for a child slower in their movements to participate  | Props  | |
| Loud unexpected sounds Playlists of music play so no guarantee of what comes next | | | |



Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to access and read our Accessibility Guide!

We hope this guide has been informative and helpful in creating a comfortable environment all of our patrons can enjoy.

We are a contemporary arts organisation that aims to inspire creativity in young people by developing projects that will engage, encourage and build skills as well as opening minds to the possibilities of the world.

In developing this guide we are hoping to create a model that other events and venues can use to be more welcoming of all abilities. We'd genuinely love your feedback as it is important for us to learn what works for you and what needs improvement.

If there is anything we can do to make our community a more inclusive space, please don't hesitate to get in contact.



Team AWESOME

(08) 9328 9666 | admin@awesomearts.com

