

## HOW IT WORKS

To become a member, fill out the application form on the back of this brochure, or online at [www.tdf.org](http://www.tdf.org) (you will need to include verification of your disability). Each month you will receive offerings by regular mail or e-mail for upcoming TAP performances. These come with order forms to purchase tickets for each show. Large print mailings for people who are low vision are available. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.tdf.org](http://www.tdf.org).

For more information, please contact  
TDF's Accessibility Services:

Voice: 212.912.9770, ext. 381

Fax: 212.768.1563

E-mail: [tap@tdf.org](mailto:tap@tdf.org)

TDF Accessibility Programs (TAP)

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New York, NY 10018-6507

[www.tdf.org](http://www.tdf.org)

TDF would like to thank the following major donors for their generous support of TDF Accessibility Programs:

- Theodore H. Barth Foundation, Inc.
- Louise & Ardé Bulova Fund, Inc.
- Laurence W. Levine Foundation, Inc.
- Newman's Own Foundation



[www.tdf.org](http://www.tdf.org) Theatre Development Fund is a not-for-profit service organization for the performing arts.



## MEMBER APPLICATION

Select the ONE category below that is most applicable to you:

- I am unable to climb stairs for medical reasons.
- I need an aisle seat for medical reasons.
- I can transfer from a wheelchair into an aisle seat.
- I must remain in a wheelchair and therefore need a wheelchair location.
- I am hard of hearing.
- I am deaf.
- I am hard of hearing/deaf and would like to attend open captioned performances.
- I am hard of hearing/deaf and would like to attend sign language interpreted performances.
- I am hearing and would like to attend sign language interpreted performances.
- I have low vision.
- I have low vision and require mailings in large print.
- I am blind.
- I have low vision/am blind and would like to attend audio described performances.

Please PRINT CLEARLY or TYPE. *Zip code must be included.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a photocopy of an official ID or doctor's note which verifies your disability. If you are an interpreter, sign language student or work with the Deaf community, please send verification of your involvement.

- I am already a TDF member, but would like to change to TDF Accessibility Programs (TAP) membership for persons with physical disabilities.

My TDF ID: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please enclose verification, as above)*

# TDF ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAMS

Theatre Development Fund's  
invitation to the theatre for people  
with physical disabilities



**THEATRE  
ACCESSIBILITY  
PROGRAMS**

A service of  
**Theatre  
Development  
Fund**

**tdf**

## YOUR INVITATION TO ENJOY TDF ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAMS

TDF Accessibility Programs (TAP) are an invitation to the performing arts for people with physical disabilities. Theatregoers who are hard of hearing or deaf, have low vision or are blind, use wheelchairs or, for medical reasons, cannot climb stairs or require aisle seating, are eligible to purchase discount tickets in the orchestra section for Broadway and Off Broadway shows. For people with mild to profound hearing loss, TDF regularly schedules open captioned and sign language interpreted performances of Broadway and Off Broadway productions. For people who are low vision or blind, TDF also provides audio described performances.

Theatre lovers who are eligible for membership receive discount orchestra seating for dozens of Broadway, Off Broadway, music and dance performances each year. Tickets are generally 50% off full price and ordered with your physical requirements in mind.

### WHAT SOME MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY...

*"I was grateful for the interpreting and captioning so that I could really understand the words and the meaning of what the performers were saying."*

—Adewunmi Adegbite, 16-year-old high school student, TDF patron since 2003

*"I have trouble walking up stairs, and thanks to TDF, my wife and I can get orchestra seats that we can afford."*

—Jay Graber, TDF patron since 1980

*"Thanks to TDF's open captioned performances, I can still enjoy frequent theatre attendance without missing one line of dialogue!"*

—Joe Gordon, Theatregoer with hearing loss, TDF patron since 1996

*"Even though my husband has used a wheelchair for the past five years, thanks to TDF's discounted accessible seating, we have not had to curtail our theatre outings."*

—Gloria Schulman, TDF patron since 1993

## TDF ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAMS

### OPEN CAPTIONED PERFORMANCES

Each year, TDF schedules open captioned performances of Broadway and Off Broadway productions for people who are hard of hearing or deaf. Since TDF presented its first open captioned performance in 1997, the demand for this service has grown steadily each year. Open captioning provides invaluable access to countless individuals with hearing loss, both young and old, for whom theatre has previously been inaccessible. With open captioning, where the dialogue appears on a text display to one side of the stage, these new and former theatregoers can again enjoy the magic of live theatre.

### SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED PERFORMANCES

TDF brought the first sign language interpreted performance to Broadway in 1980 and, since then, periodically schedules interpreted performances of Broadway and Off Broadway shows for theatregoers who are deaf and use American Sign Language as their primary means of communication.

### AUDIO DESCRIBED PERFORMANCES

In 2008, TDF added audio description to its list of accessibility services to help make theatre more enjoyable for people who are low vision and blind. These periodically scheduled performances provide the listener with a narration of key visual elements on stage, heard by wearing a single earpiece connected to a small receiver with an adjustable volume control.

### LIMITED MOBILITY, LOW VISION AND BLIND ACCESS

For theatregoers with limited mobility, TDF Accessibility Programs provide aisle and close orchestra seating at a discount for people who are in wheelchairs, have difficulty walking up steps, or have limited vision or who are blind. TDF works as a liaison to make their theatregoing experience as comfortable as possible.

### ARTS-IN-EDUCATION: ACCESS FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES (AYA)

AYA is TDF's arts-in education program for elementary and secondary school students in the tri-state area who are mostly first-time theatregoers. For students who are hard of hearing and deaf, TDF simultaneously provides sign language interpreting and open captioning for Wednesday matinee performances of Broadway productions. For students who are low vision and blind, TDF provides similarly scheduled audio described performances. Prior to attending the shows, TDF offers a teaching artist to meet with the students in their classrooms for a pre-performance workshop. Tickets to these accessible performances, as well as the workshops, are provided by TDF to the schools and students at no cost.

### INTERPRETING FOR THE THEATRE

TDF, in partnership with The Juilliard School, produces the "Interpreting for the Theatre" institute which offers proficient theatre interpreters from across the country the opportunity to explore advanced techniques for interpreting plays and musicals. At this annual week-long institute, workshops are taught by TDF's most celebrated theatre interpreters with classroom support from Deaf professionals.

### TAP PLUS

Strengthening its commitment to increase accessibility for people with hearing disabilities, TDF administers a re-granting program, TAP Plus, in partnership with the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). TAP Plus provides funding for open captioning and sign language interpreting services to eligible cultural organizations throughout New York State.

