

What is Audio Description?

Audio description is a verbal commentary of what is happening on stage; said in between the shows spoken dialogue. This commentary, to provide an insight into the productions visual story, is given through a headset that patrons collect when they arrive at the theatre.

The description does not interfere with the performance but fills in the gaps, describing facial expressions, costume, scenery and action sequences so that anyone with a sight problem can follow the plot fully and independently.

Before the show begins the audio describer will give you a description of the set and provides an image of the main characters. Ultimately, they set the scene for those who can't see the set clearly or at all.

Touch Tours

Touch Tours are offered to AD users and run by the audio describer. Patrons go to the stage and get the opportunity to hear an in depth description of the set and feel it to aid the picture they are creating in their head. They also meet some of the performers and get to touch their costume.

Audio



Description

How does it work?

Users of this service will be given a headset - similar to the one above - to listen to the live commentary.

The headsets work using infrared rays to transmit information from the microphone into the headset receivers.

The audio describer will be in a sound proofed box in the theatre and will deliver the commentary. Usually audio describers have seen the performance a few times before and knows when there are pauses they can fill.

To minimise interference of the infrared rays connecting the audio describer to the headset, users are positioned in particular seats that have been carefully selected.

