Dear Teachers,

The staff at the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center welcomes you to the Kaleidoscope Series for Youth. We appreciate your selection of the Gallagher Bluedorn for your students’ cultural experience. The staff will make every effort to ensure your visit to our facility is educational, engaging, and enjoyable.

The materials about each individual performance in the Study Guide are designed by educators to help plan for your field trip. This information usually includes a synopsis of the production, pre- and post-show activities for the classroom, and bibliographies. Please feel free to print and copy the information that is appropriate to your classroom lesson plan. In addition, students and parents are encouraged to investigate the study guide materials together.

Along with study guide information, this packet will also provide you with valuable information about the performance experience and logistics of your trip, including information about the Gallagher Bluedorn, directions for travel, parking, and attendance information.

Thank you for your interest in the Kaleidoscope Series for Youth, and we look forward to having you visit our classroom — the Great Hall of the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, where inspiration becomes a reality!

Amy Hunzelman,
Director of Education and Special Programs
Field Trip Information For Teachers

BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE...

Time of Arrival
We suggest you arrive approximately 20–30 minutes prior to curtain time.

Parking and Unloading
School buses arriving at the Gallagher Bluedorn will approach via University Avenue. Enter campus from the east at the traffic light onto Campus Street. The Gallagher Bluedorn drive-up lane is directly on your left. Please line up behind any buses waiting to unload students. Unload students quickly and move them onto the sidewalk. Gallagher Bluedorn staff will direct traffic and assist in the unloading.

When empty, school buses will move to the parking lot located on the north side of the Gallagher Bluedorn, unless ushers indicate otherwise. Once parked, buses cannot leave the lot until after the performance. If your bus needs to leave during the show, they should return no later than 10 minutes before the end of the performance and park in the drive in front of the Gallagher Bluedorn. If your students are staying on campus for lunch or a tour and will not be getting on the bus immediately after the show, please notify parking staff so it is parked appropriately.

Home Schools/Private Patrons
When you arrive, please proceed to the B lot south of University Avenue. Parking is free and no parking voucher is needed. A limited number of parking spaces for those with handicap designations or special needs are available in the lot north of the Gallagher Bluedorn. Please plan accordingly and arrive early.

Tickets
You will receive a voucher for your group order. Ushers will have lists of schools attending and seating assignments. Present your voucher to the ushers as you enter the Gallagher Bluedorn lobby.

Seating
The ushers will direct groups to their seats. Our seating policy is to seat students and teachers together as indicated on the order form. Each busload of students receives an usher and may enter a different door but will be seated in the same area in the auditorium.

Special Seating
Please inform Molly Hackenmiller at (319) 273-3682 if you have a student with special seating needs (if not previously noted on your order form) so we can arrange appropriate seating. Please provide at least two weeks’ notice if possible. Due to the large number of students attending most shows, we may not be able to accommodate special seating if we do not have prior notice.
Field Trip Information For Teachers

DURING THE PERFORMANCE...

A Few Reminders on Theatre Etiquette

• Food and drink are not permitted in the Great Hall.
• Cameras and recording devices are not allowed.
• You may talk before and after the performance begins, but please do not talk during.
• Turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices.
• Clap and cheer when appropriate.
• Most importantly, enjoy the show!

Chaperones
Please see the section below on guidelines for Kaleidoscope chaperones.

Duration
The performance will last approximately one hour unless otherwise noted on the website, confirmation letter, and voucher. If your students are staying on campus for lunch or a tour and will not be getting on the bus immediately after the show, please notify parking staff so it is parked appropriately.

AFTER THE PERFORMANCE...

Loading
At the conclusion of the performance, stay seated and wait until your assigned bus number is called by the Gallagher Bluedorn employee onstage. Please wait patiently as groups are dismissed to their buses. A Gallagher Bluedorn volunteer will escort your group to your bus safely. Home schooled students and chaperones may exit at the conclusion of the performance through the east exit.

Evaluation
Teacher surveys will be conducted online. The contact name on your group order will receive a link via email after the performance. Please share this with other teachers on the field trip. We appreciate your feedback for future Kaleidoscope performances!

Guidelines for Kaleidoscope Chaperones
As a chaperone for a Kaleidoscope performance, you are an important factor in making the performance enjoyable for the entire audience. Here are some guidelines to help make the most of your Kaleidoscope experience.

• Before entering the hall, assist the teacher by keeping students in line and by reminding them that chewing gum, eating, and drinking are not allowed in the hall. Make sure to take notice of the bus number assigned to you by a Gallagher Bluedorn employee.
• Be ready to let the ushers know what school you represent when you arrive. This information helps the ushers show you to your seats in an efficient manner. Please be patient if several people ask you the same question.
• If you need assistance for any reason, ushers are wearing white shirts and black pants and will be wearing nametags.
• Sit amongst the students during the performance. Please ask students to remain in their seats and to refrain from talking during the show. We want all students to be able to hear and enjoy the show.
• At the conclusion of the show, wait to exit until your assigned bus number is called by the Gallagher Bluedorn employee onstage once the show is over. Please wait patiently as groups are dismissed to their buses. When exiting the hall, please help the teacher keep your class together.
DON’T LET THE PIGEON DRIVE THE BUS!

A WORLD PREMIERE KENNEDY CENTER COMMISSION

Based on the book by MO WILLEMS

Written by MO WILLEMS and MR. WARBURTON / Music by DEBORAH WICKS LA PUMA

Directed by JERRY WHIDDON / Choreography by JESSICA HARTMAN / Dramaturgy by MEGAN ALRUTZ

MO WILLEMS AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

Presenting Sponsor of Performances for Young Audiences
A DRAMA OF DRIVING DESIRE
THE PIGEON WANTS TO DRIVE THE BUS—DO YOU THINK HE SHOULD?

Welcome to a brand-new musical based on Mo Willems' books about your favorite pigeon . . .

This Cuesheet will help you get ready for The Pigeon’s story and for puppets, music, singing—and vroom-vroom-vroomy-vrooming fun!

PUPPET MANIA

The Pigeon comes to life on stage as a sassy puppet who can do everything—from having a meltdown to saving the day. The Duckling, the Puppy, and the Bus are puppets, too! Now it’s your turn. Find fun finger puppets on the detachable page of this Cuesheet.

SIMPLY POP THE PUPPETS OUT. THEN...

PLAY IT:
With friends, take turns creating a new story with your puppets. One person starts by using one or more puppets to help tell the story. Then the next person continues the story using puppets until everyone has had a turn.

SAY IT:
Give each puppet its own unique voice (such as squeaky, low, or fast-talking) and practice speaking for each one.

Some lines you might try:
Pigeon: “Can I drive the bus?”
Puppy: “Woof, woof!”
Duckling: “Eating hot dogs is MY thing.”
Bus: “Vroomy vroom vroom...honk honk!”

Congratulations—you’re a puppeteer and storyteller!

Psst... In the performance, be sure to look for the different ways the actors move the puppets on stage. Also, how many performers move the Puppy puppet?
TELL A STORY WITH MUSIC!

In the performance, the music helps tell the story through songs like “Let Me Drive the Bus!” Take turns with your Pigeon puppet singing these lines from the show:

Puppet: “Vroomy-vroom-vroom Can I drive the bus?”
You: “No, No!”
Puppet: “Why can’t I drive the bus? I’m a pigeon you can trust!”
You: “No, No!”

THE BUS PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE PERFORMANCE—AND ITS SOUNDS DO, TOO!

What are some sounds a bus and its engine might make? Use your voice to try them. During the show, watch and listen for how the actor playing the Bus creates funny and dramatic bus engine sounds.

THE PIGEON HAS SOME BIG FEELINGS!

The puppet and puppeteer show them during the performance. Using your own facial expressions and moving your finger puppets in creative ways (such as hiding the puppet if the character is scared), express these feelings to a few friends and ask them to guess which feeling you are showing:

Love
Anger
Fear
Happiness
Disappointment

LISTEN FOR SOME BIG IDEAS IN THE STORY:

• Saying “no” when appropriate.
• Finding your thing, or your “heart dog.”
• Dealing with disappointment.
• Gaining perspective (a new way to look at things).

How do you feel about saying “no”—and having “no” said to you? Write a letter to The Pigeon with your advice about what to do when hearing “no.”

Try writing your own lines!
TOO MUCH AWESOME!

A FEW LAST THINGS BEFORE YOU FLY OFF FOR THE SHOW:

WATCH FOR:
• The different types of puppets.
• The ways the performer brings The Pigeon to life.
• A few characters from other Pigeon books.
• How panicking keeps everyone from getting what they want.
• How The Pigeon finds his “thing”—what he also calls his “heart dog”—and what happens next.

LISTEN FOR:
• All the times people say “no” to The Pigeon and how The Pigeon responds.
• How the words and music from the songs express feelings and what the characters want.
• Playful mentions from Mo Willems’ Knuffle Bunny books.

THINK ABOUT:
• Who are heroes in the story?
• What helped them succeed?

DOODLE OUT:
Sketch The Pigeon and friends on a new adventure!

P.S. Grownups—Hiya!
You want to know and do more, am I right? Follow me to our officially official online grownup guide!

Before your visit, download the Tour the Kennedy Center app to discover what rewards you can win in a fun Pigeon-packed guided tour of the Kennedy Center.
Let’s make some finger puppets!

Just follow these 3 simple steps.

1. Remove this page where indicated, and pop out each puppet.

2. Roll the bottom of each puppet into a tube so that the arrows touch; then tape it together. The opening should be a little bit bigger than your finger.

3. Yay! You just made a finger puppet! Now make three more!