



STUDENT MATINEE PERFORMANCE GUIDE

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National Geographic Live in Kansas City is generously supported by Teresa and Tom Walsh.

open
DOORS

For more information about
Kauffman Center Open Doors programming,
visit www.kauffmancenter.org/kids
or call (816) 994-7222



Kauffman Center
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Your Job As An Audience Member

While you are at the Kauffman Center to enjoy a performance, remember that you can help make it a positive experience for yourself, the performers, and the other students. Performers are very aware of how the audience responds so it is important to stay quiet when appropriate, but also show appreciation for the performance at the right moments.

Lively bands, musicians, and dancers may desire audience members to clap and move to the beat. Other performers require silent focus on the stage and will want an audience to applaud only when they have completed a portion of their performance. Keep in mind the venue is designed to move sound easily around the room, so even whispering can be disruptive to the performers and other students.

Before you arrive for the performance, think about how to be a great audience member:

What are some differences between watching a live performance and going to a movie or watching television?

What are some ways you can show the performers that you are enjoying the performance?

What might a performer do to let the audience know that it's the right time to laugh, clap, or even ask a question?

Audience Member Checklist

- Leave your food, drinks and chewing gum on the bus or back at school.**
- Turn off any cell phones** before the performance starts.
- Cameras are not allowed** in the hall unless otherwise mentioned.
- When it starts to get dark in the hall, **turn your attention to the stage.** The show is about to begin!
- Talk to your neighbors only BEFORE and AFTER the show.** The performers and other audience members can hear you too!
- After the performance, your school will be dismissed from the stage. **Please wait to leave the hall until your group is called.** Be sure to look around your seat to make sure nothing gets left behind.

KAUFFMAN CENTER FUN FACTS

- The Kauffman Center opened in September 2011 after nearly five years of construction.
- The bright white walls and floors in Brandmeyer Great Hall are there to let the audience members serve as the color. Think of the walls and floors as the canvas and YOU are the paint!
- More than 350,000 people visit the Kauffman Center every year—nearly 40,000 of those guests are with schools attending a student matinee.
- The Kauffman Center has two theatres: Muriel Kauffman Theatre (1,800 seats) and Helzberg Hall (1,600 seats).
- The Kauffman Center sits on nearly 14 acres of land—that’s about the size of 11 football fields!

Kauffman Center Architecture

Class Discussion Questions

The Kauffman Center architect, Moshe Safdie, intended for Brandmeyer Great Hall to be an “extroverted” space.

What about the room’s design makes you think it’s extroverted?

Moshe Safdie also wanted people to think of music and dance just by looking at the building. ***Are there any features that make you think of music and dance?***

The two theatres, Muriel Kauffman Theatre and Helzberg Hall are meant to have two very distinctive styles. ***What words would you use to describe the style in each space?***

Helzberg Hall is designed to help sound travel easily around the space. ***What features about the space do you think contribute to the great acoustics?***



About the Kauffman Center

The Kauffman Center serves a vital role in the Kansas City community, particularly in three specific ways: hosting other arts organizations, presenting performances, and opening the Kauffman Center doors to local schools, students, and community partners.

Resident Arts Organizations

The Kauffman Center is the home for three independent arts organizations:

Kansas City Symphony
Kansas City Ballet
Lyric Opera of Kansas City

These groups produce their own performances, and they perform in the Kauffman Center's two venues, Muriel Kauffman Theatre and Helzberg Hall.

Presenting Performances

The Kauffman Center brings a wide range of performances to Kansas City to fill in the gaps of our residents' seasons. Many artists have been featured on Kauffman Center stages, like John Legend or Patti LaBelle, in addition to a wide range of wildlife photographers and explorers through the *National Geographic Live* series. Every year, the Kauffman Center brings a diverse set of performers and presenters to Kansas City!

Serving the Community

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is a building for everyone in Kansas City so there will always be options for schools to come enjoy performances and opportunities for students to perform on the stages. Whether it's to see a *National Geographic Live* presentation or to perform at the annual Future Stages Festival, young people are always welcome at the Kauffman Center!

CHARLIE HAMILTON JAMES

I Bought A Rainforest

FEB 7 and 8, 2017

Charlie Hamilton James is a photojournalist who specializes in wildlife and conservation. He is considered an expert on river otters and king fishers, and spent 20 years working in the rainforest habitats of Peru's Manu National Park. His series "I Bought a Rainforest" chronicles his misadventures through the Amazon, including interactions with local tribes, living with illegal loggers, and working in a gold mine.

Hamilton now lives in Yellowstone National Park and shoots natural history films for clients through his production company. He is fiercely dedicated to the preservation of these parks and the biodiversity they contain.



Presentation Vocabulary List

Biodiversity: All the different kinds of living organisms within a given area

Conservation: Management of a natural resource to prevent destruction and neglect

Ecosystem: Interactions of living and non-living things in an area

National Park: Geographic area protected by a country's national government

Preserve: To maintain and keep safe from damage

Rainforest: Area of tall, mostly evergreen trees and a high amount of rainfall

Yellowstone National Park: National Park in the U.S. states of Wyoming, Idaho, & Montana

To learn more about Charlie Hamilton James and see some of his photography, visit his [website](#). Interactive maps, videos, activities and classroom resources for grades 5-12 can be found on Charlie Hamilton James's webpage at [National Geographic](#).

CLASSROOM IDEAS

Before the Show

- Download and print the [National Geographic maps](#) of Peru and Yellowstone to explore the areas where Charlie Hamilton James works.
- Have students read [National Geographic's conservation encyclopedic entry](#). Lead a class discussion about conserving resources. After reading, ask: **What resources do you interact with in your daily lives? What do you do to conserve them?** Invite students to create a classroom conservation checklist with easy things they can do every day at home or in the classroom.

After the Show

- Discuss some of the following questions related to the continents, countries or areas mentioned during the presentation: **What role did "place" play in Charlie Hamilton James's story? Why was the location important to the story? How did the characteristics of the place influence the story?**
- Have a class discussion about the attitudes that National Geographic explorers embody and how students can support the speaker's work: **In what ways does Charlie Hamilton James demonstrate curiosity, responsibility, empowerment, and persistence in his work? Why do you think these attitudes are important for explorers? What, if any, call to action did the speaker ask you to make? How can you make changes in your day-to-day life?**

Suggested National Geographic Activities

Grades 3–6: [Mapping Landforms](#)

Grades 6–8: [Protecting Biodiversity in the Amazon Rainforest](#)

Grades 9–12: [The Role of Images in Storytelling](#)

Interactive maps, videos, activities and more classroom resources for grades 2–12 can be found on Charlie Hamilton James's webpage at [National Geographic](#).

ANAND VARMA
Beauty and the Bizarre
April 4, 2017

Anand Varma grew up exploring the streams and wooded lots of his childhood home in Atlanta. As a teenager, he picked up his father's old camera on a whim and found that he could use it to feed his curiosity about the natural world. Even better, he could share these discoveries with others. He now tells the stories behind the science, covering everything from hummingbird biomechanics to mangrove forests.

Varma's presentation features bizarre and amazing images of the inside of wasps, caterpillars, bees and many other organisms. He offers a rare glimpse of the world's smallest wonders, revealing the secret lives of these spectacular creatures.



Presentation Vocabulary List

Apiculturist: A person who cultivates hives of bees

Biodiversity: All the different kinds of living organisms within a given area

Biology: The study of living things

Conservation: Management of a natural resource to prevent destruction and neglect

Field Work: Scientific studies done outside of a lab, classroom, or office

Hive: A structure where bees live

Insect: A type of animal that breathes air and has a body divided into three segments, with six legs and usually wings

Preserve: To maintain and keep safe from damage

To learn more about Anand Varma and see some of his photography, visit his [website](#). Interactive maps, videos, activities and classroom resources for grades 5-12 can be found on Anand Varma's webpage at [National Geographic](#).

CLASSROOM IDEAS

Before the Show

- 💡 Have students read [National Geographic's biodiversity encyclopedic entry](#). Lead a class discussion about different kinds of biodiversity. After reading, ask: **What do we know about biodiversity? Why is biodiversity important?** Then have students read the [field work encyclopedic entry](#). **How is field work connected to biodiversity?**
- 💡 Engage students in exploring the biodiversity of their own environments by using National Geographic's Mapping Biodiversity activity.

After the Show

- 💡 Discuss some of the following questions related to the continents, countries or areas mentioned during the presentation: **What role did "place" play in Anand Varma's story? Why was the location important to the story? How did the characteristics of the place influence the story?**
- 💡 Have a class discussion about the attitudes that National Geographic explorers embody and how students can support the speaker's work: **In what ways does Anand Varma demonstrate curiosity, responsibility, empowerment, and persistence in his work? Why do you think these attitudes are important for explorers? What, if any, call to action did the speaker ask you to make? How can you make changes in your day-to-day life?**

Suggested National Geographic Activities

Grades 2–6: [Build Your Own Bee Hotel](#)

Grades 3–5: [Mapping Biodiversity](#)

Grades 5–10: [Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle and Migration](#)

Grades 6–12: [Species Identification](#)

Interactive maps, videos, activities and more classroom resources for grades 2–12 can be found on Anand Varma's webpage at [National Geographic](#).

Open Doors—Spotlight on Youth

Students can learn about the Kauffman Center's architecture, meet some of the staff members, and even perform on the Kauffman Center stages! Educators are encouraged to explore the Open Doors *Spotlight on Youth* opportunities below at kauffmancenter.org/kids.

Future Stages Festival

Sunday, June 25, 2017 (11 AM-4PM)

This annual free event features more than 600 youth performers on three Kauffman Center stages. Schools and community groups are invited to apply to perform at the festival. Performance applications will be accepted until March 20, 2017. [Click here](#) to fill out an application and learn more about this great community event!

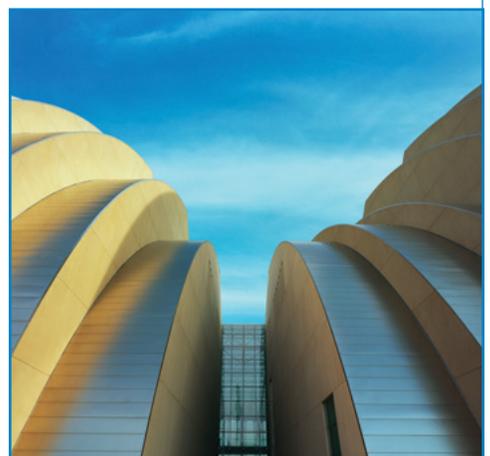
Children's Architecture Tour

Discover the Kauffman Center's architectural highlights and artistic details. Students will explore the performance spaces while learning about the Kauffman Center's history.

Career Center Stage*

The Kauffman Center is dedicated to giving students some tools to launch a career in the arts. Through internship experiences, group discussions with Kauffman Center staff, and even theater production workshops, students can learn how to begin a career as an arts professional.

**These opportunities are intended for high school and college students. Please note that internships require applications and are exclusively for college students and recent college graduates.*



Contact opendoors@kauffmancenter.org for information.