

LIVE AUDIO DESCRIPTION

Voicing the Visual Magic of Theatre for the Vision Impaired

What is Live Audio Description for theater?

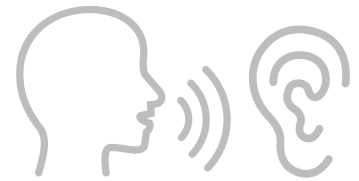
Audio Description is a narration service that brings the visual elements of the theater to life for the blind and vision impaired.



Tactile tours before the performance allow patrons to touch costumes, set pieces, and hear actor's voices to help with recognition during shows.

How does audio description work?

- **Audio Describers prepare** by previewing the show with scripts in hand, making notes of what and when to describe, ensuring the experience works within the artistic design of the show.
- Live wireless technology allows the describers to **provide descriptions of the visual elements** of live theatre performances in between the actor's dialogue and song lyrics.
- Patrons with vision impairment **wear a single-ear headphone** and enjoy the play with audio descriptions as they are seated in the general audience.
- **Services are provided free of charge** by Virginia Voice to theaters and patrons through the generosity of public support.
- Live Audio Description performances are marketed by Virginia Voice and community partners.



"It was amazing how the describer interjected integral information with perfect timing, while still allowing me to clearly hear the actors speak their parts."

- DEBRA HILL, VISION IMPAIRED PATRON OF THE ARTS



"We wholeheartedly endorse Virginia Voice and have committed to partner with them to provide Audio Description services."

- PHILIP J. WHITEWAY
MANAGING DIRECTOR



To learn more, or to get involved, contact Sassy Rychalski at **(804) 266-2477** or **srychalski@virginiavoice.org**. Thank you!