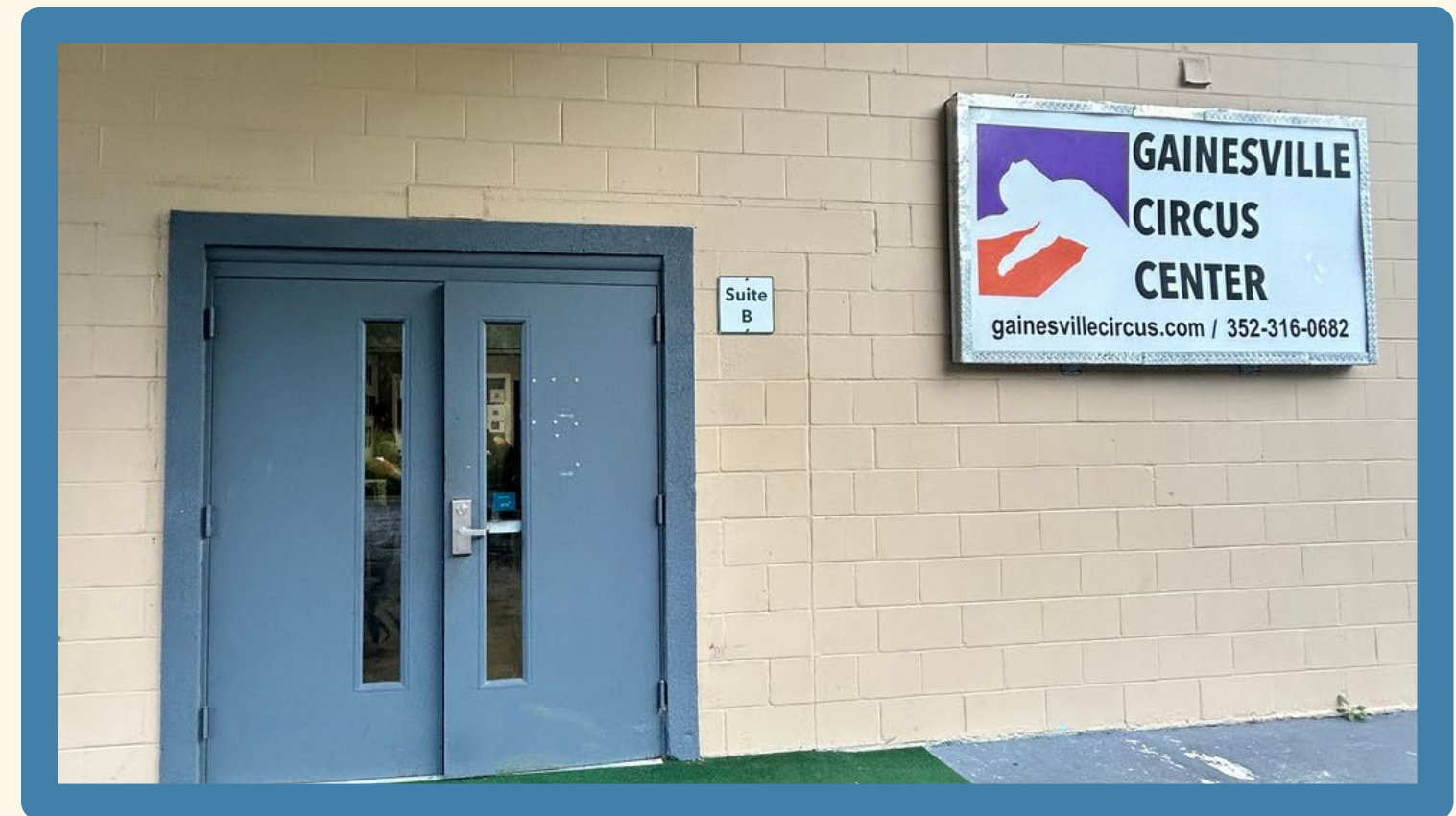




Social Story

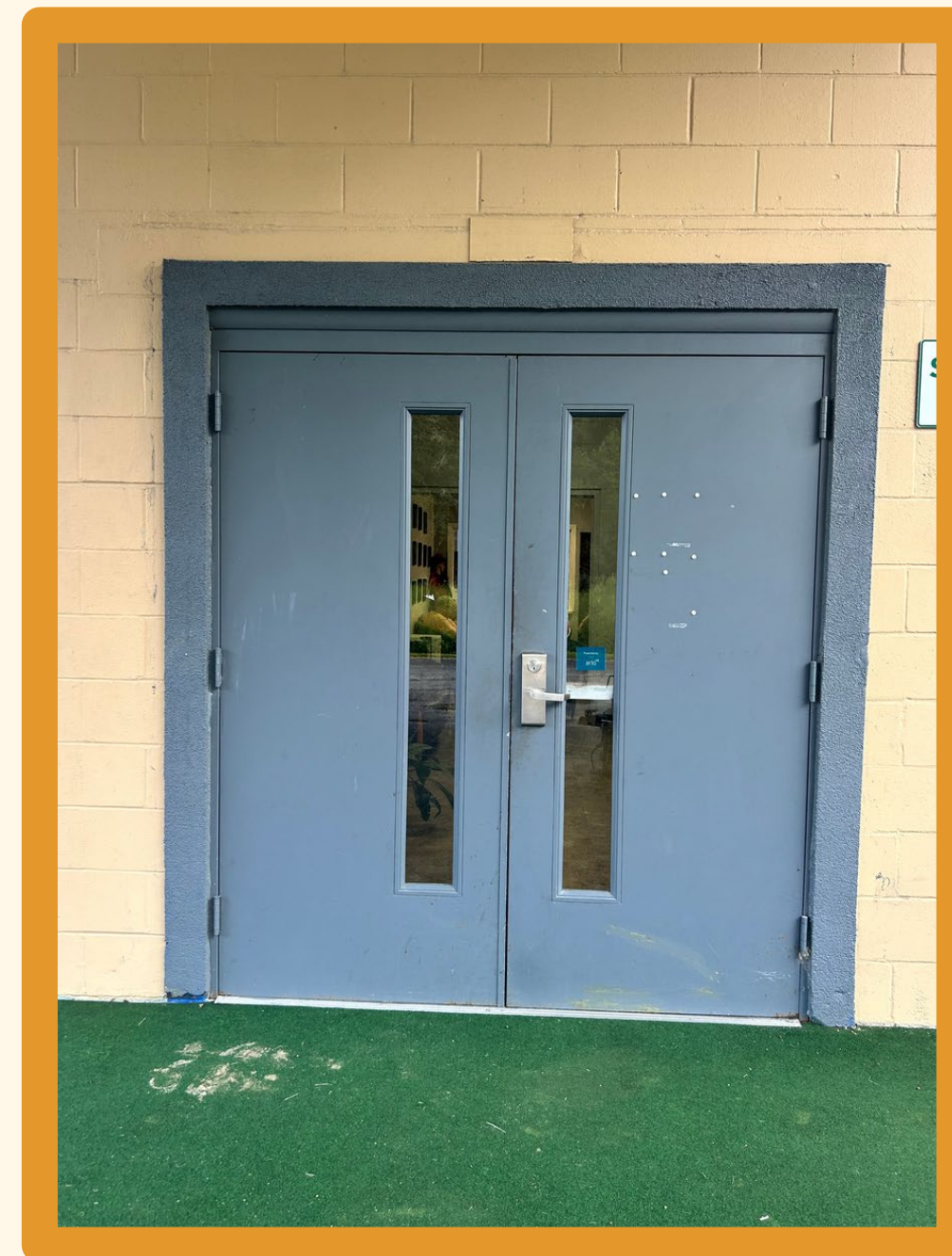
Today I am going to the Gainesville Circus Center!

I will wait in my car with my family or friends until it is time to go inside.

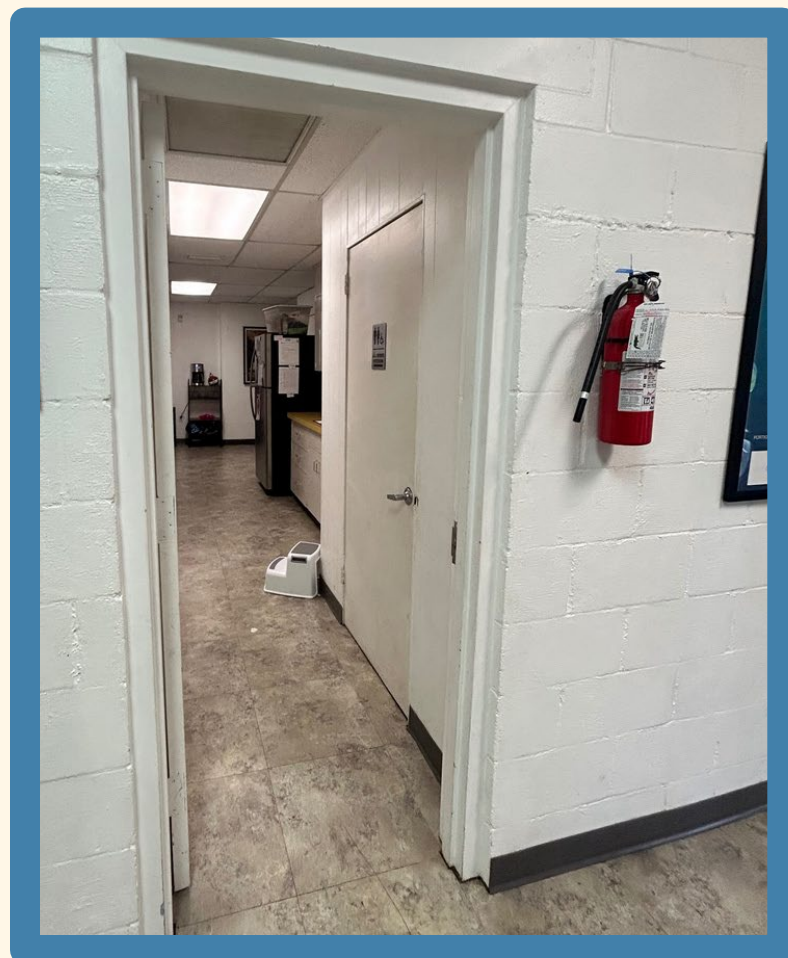


We don't want to arrive too early. Waiting in the car helps us feel calm and ready for the fun show ahead!

**When it is time to go in, we will walk through
the front doors.**



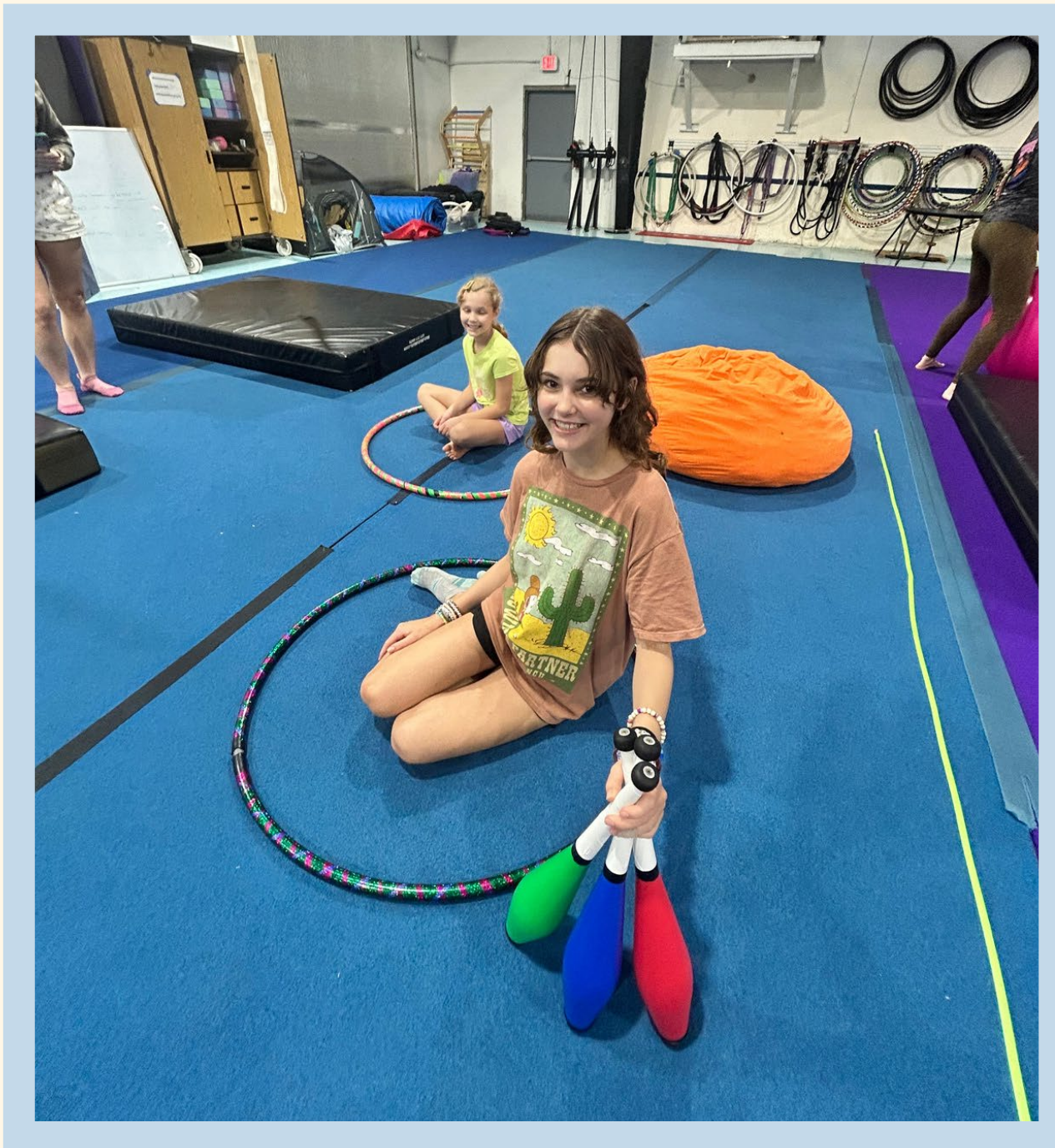
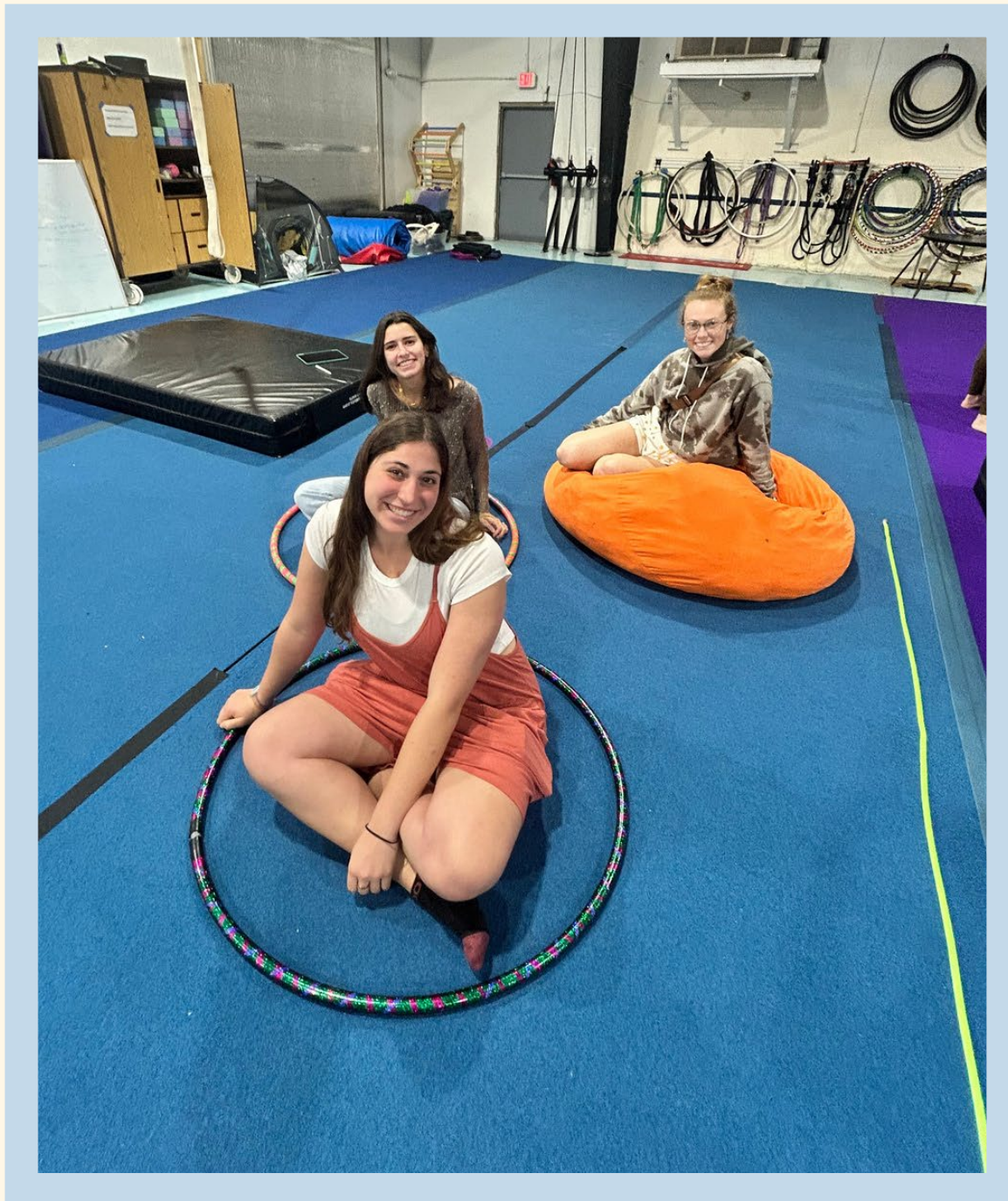
In the lobby, I will see a bathroom on the right, and a place to leave my shoes.



We will all take our shoes off and leave them by the door. Our shoes will be safe here.

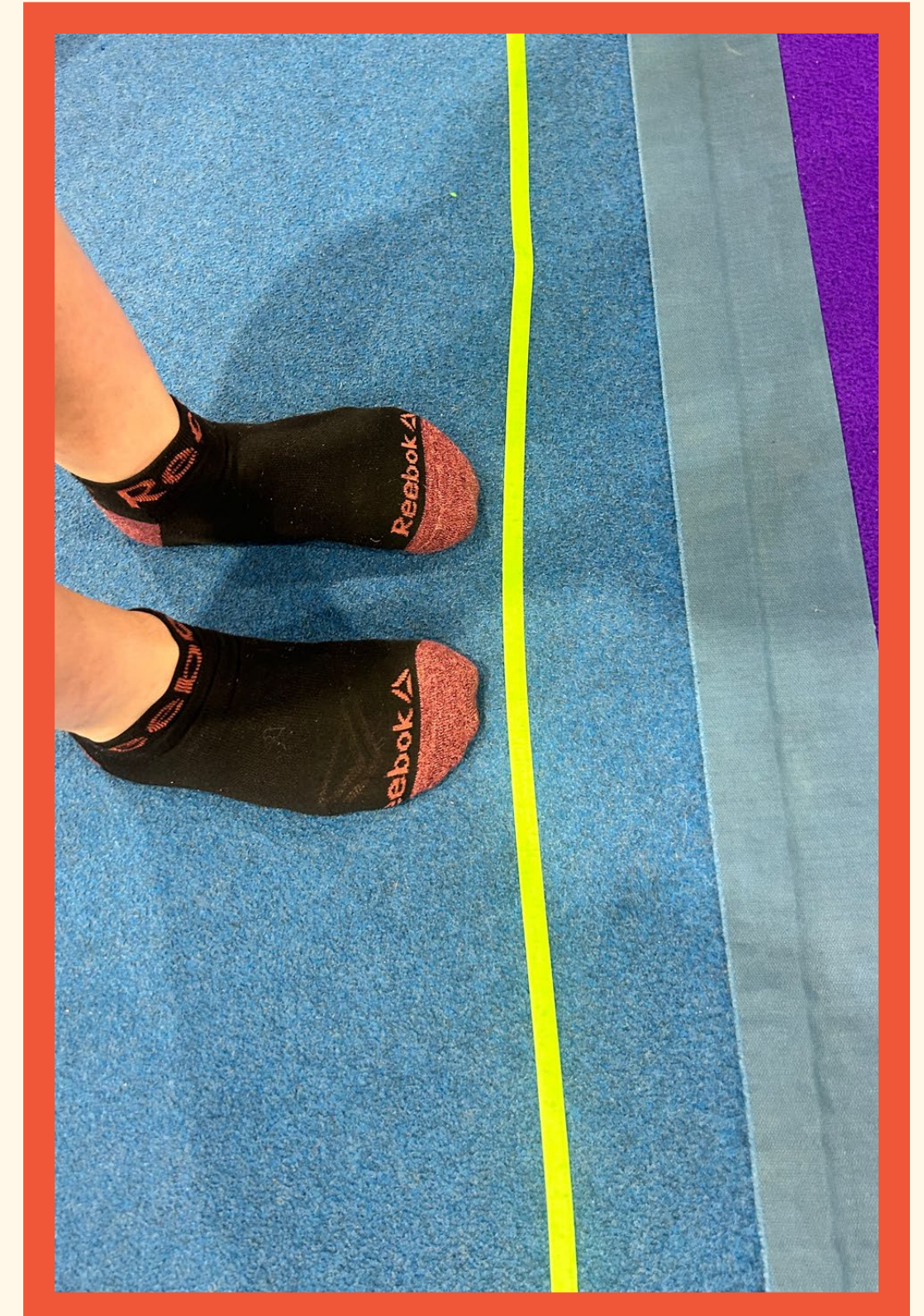
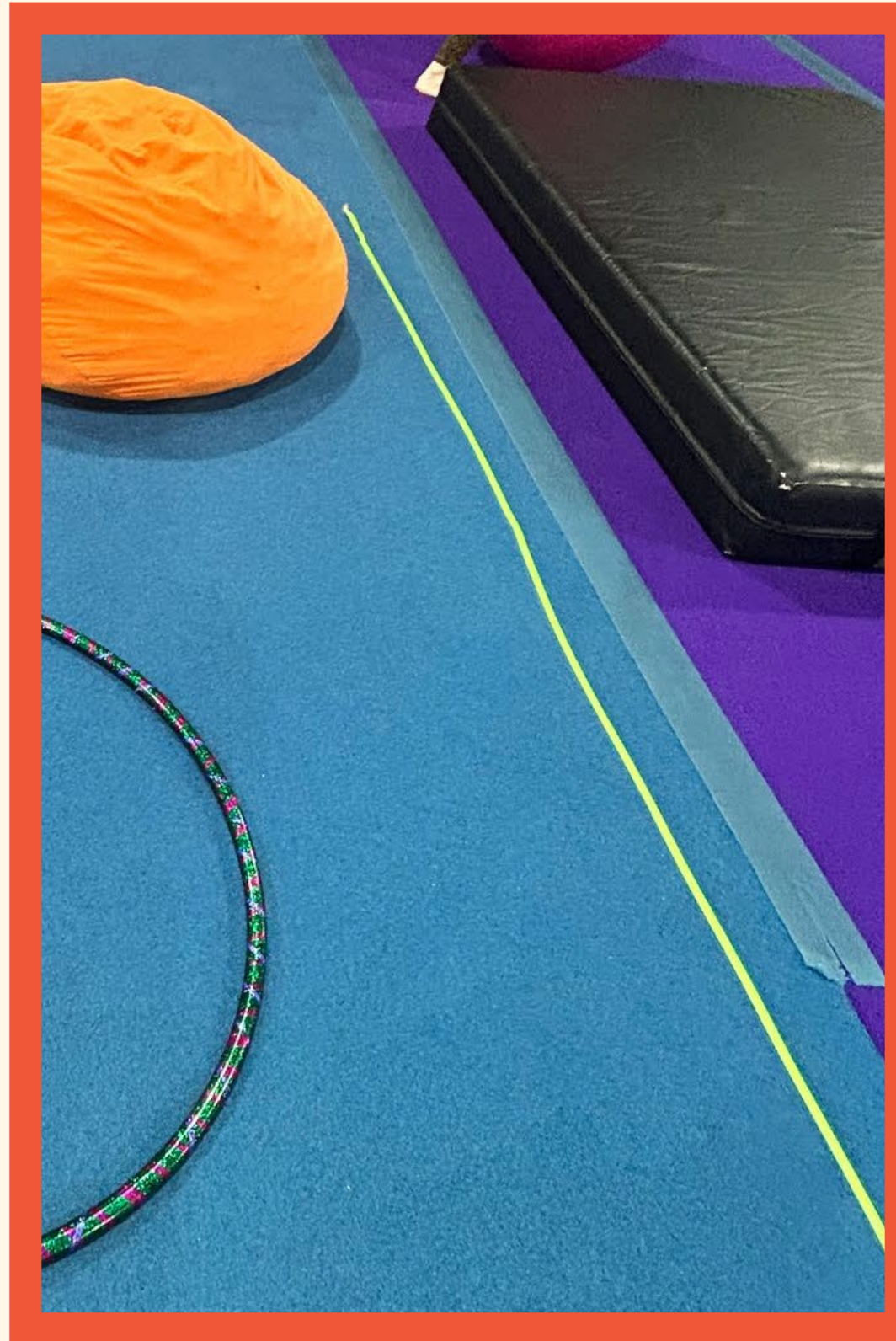


There will be lots of comfortable places to sit!
I can sit in hula hoops, on mats, on yoga balls, or on couches.



**There will be neon
tape on the floor
that marks where the
performers will be.**

**I need to stay behind
the neon tape so the
performers can stay
safe while they do
their amazing tricks.**



Behind the performers, there will be a big black wall. I might see
tall, bright lights.

These lights are for the show, and it's important not to touch them.



Some of the performers might be on trapeze, silks, slings, or rings - called lyra. Others might juggle, dance, or do acrobatics.

The performers have practiced a lot, so even though it might look like they're falling, they are safe.





On the right side of the performance area, there will be speakers. This side might be a little bit louder. If I think the music will be too loud, I can bring headphones to help make it quieter, or sit on the side further away from the speakers.

It's ok if I make noise or move around at circus during the show.

I can walk around, as long as I stay behind the line.

I can make noises and cheer during the show.

I can rock or flap.

I can use my “happy hands” (which means waving my hands in the air) to show the performers I like what they’re doing.



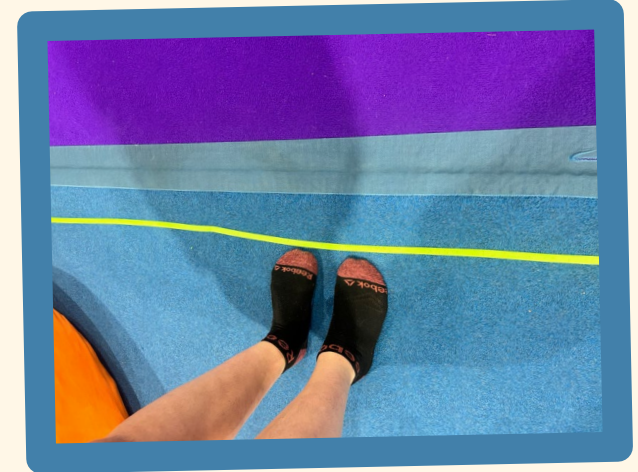
**The performers love it when I use
my happy hands and have an
excited face.**

**We can clap and cheer at the
end of each act to let them
know we enjoyed the show!**

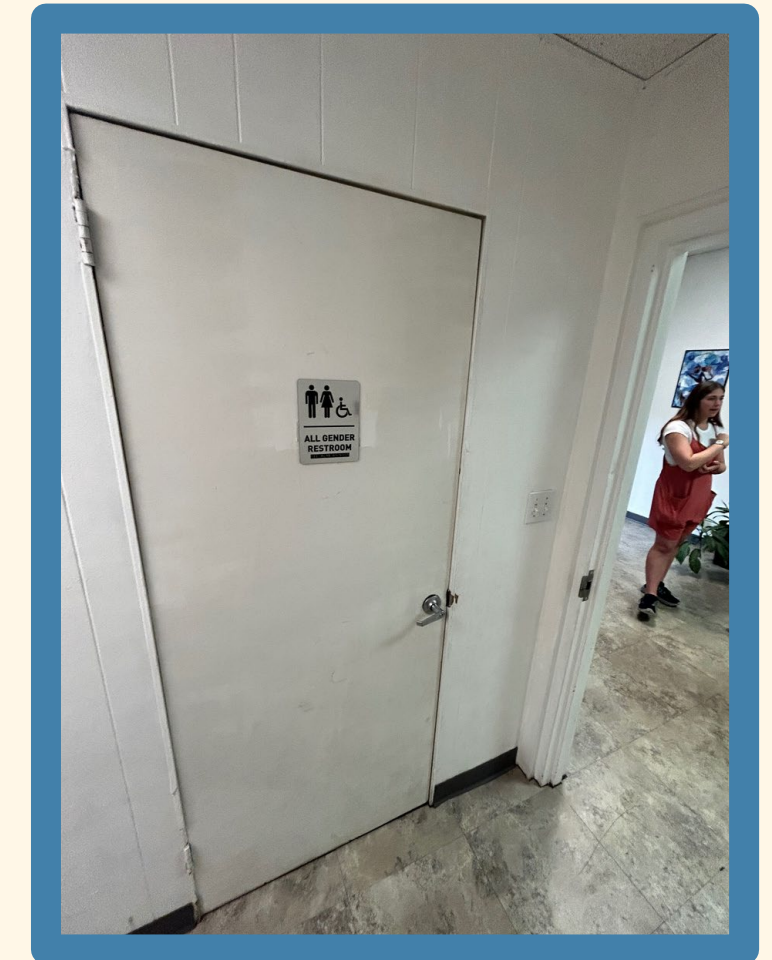
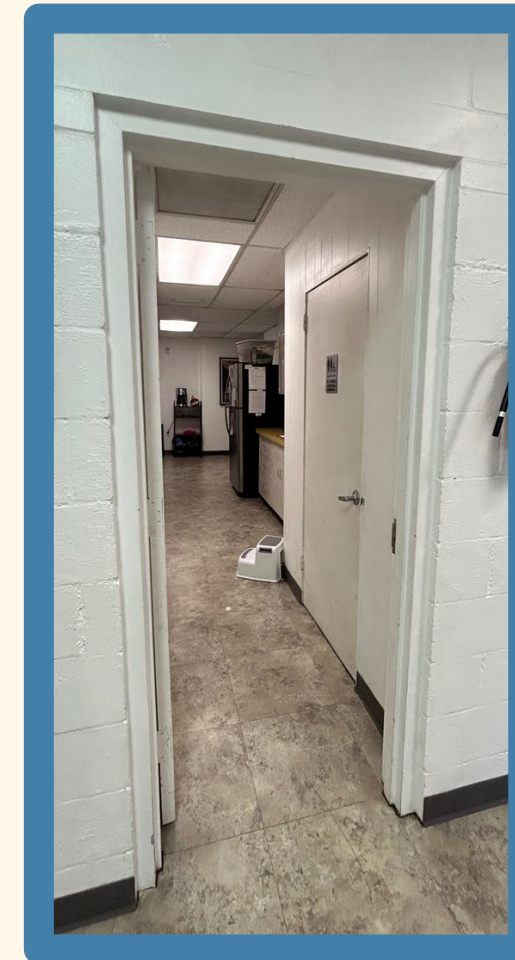
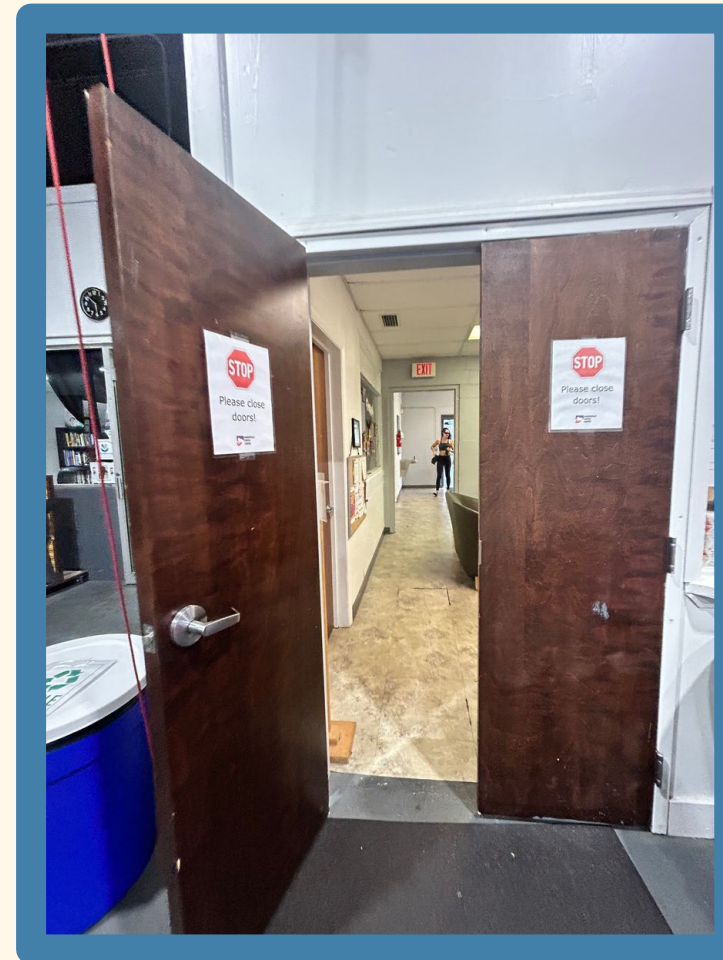
**Clapping and cheering can be
loud.**



If I need to go to the bathroom during the show, I can quietly leave and walk down one of the two aisles marked by the neon tape.

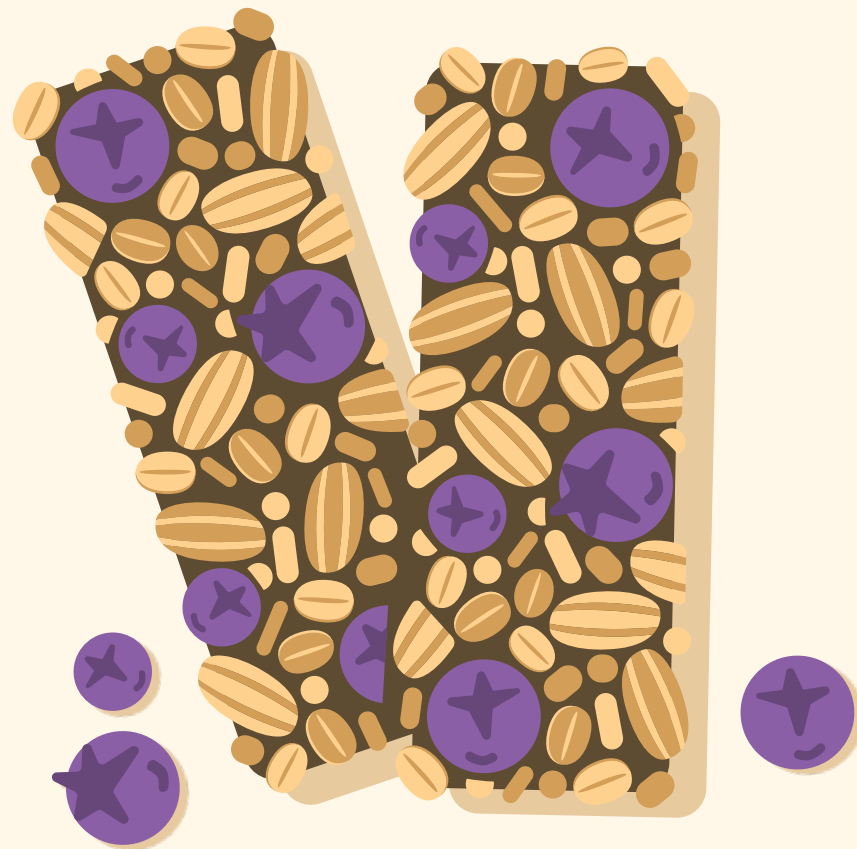
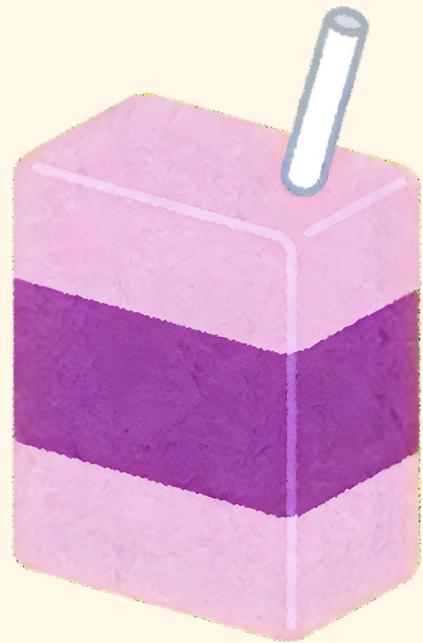


The bathroom is located in the lobby. I will remember to use just a little bit of toilet paper because the pipes are old and need to be treated gently.

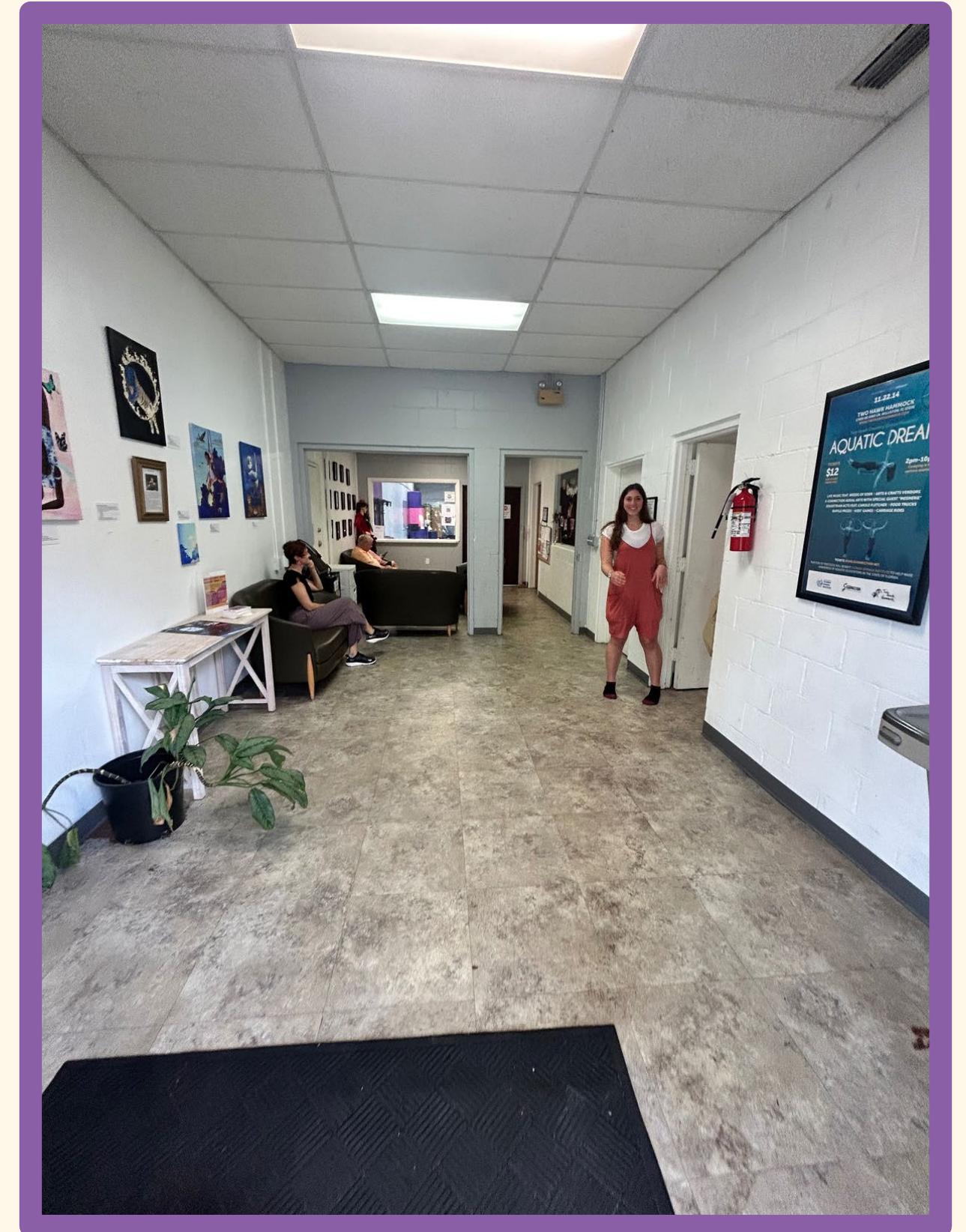


After I'm done, I can wash my hands and return to the show.





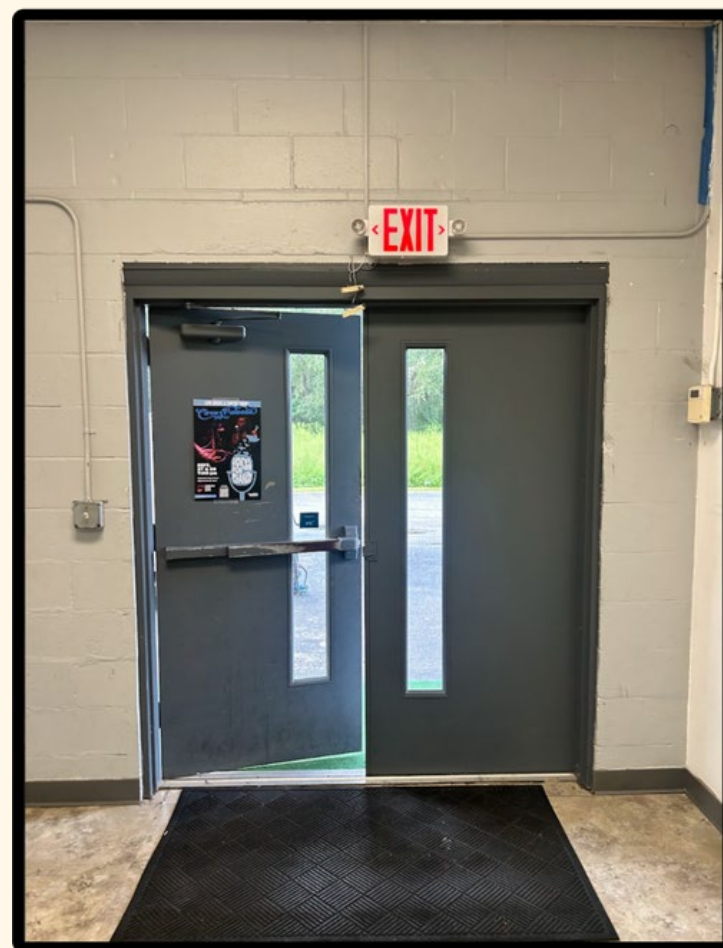
**If I get hungry or thirsty,
I can go to the lobby to
have a snack. It's
important to eat in the
lobby and not on the
mats so we can keep the
performance space
clean.**



**Sometimes, I might feel excited, nervous, or even a little scared.
That's okay.**



**I can decide to leave the show and ask my family or friends to take me to the lobby.
In the lobby, I can play with the trains or use the cool -down tent.
I can take a break for as long as I need.
I can come back to the show whenever I want.**



After about 45 minutes,
the show will be over. I
will leave with happy
memories of the
performers and all the
fun I had! If I want, I can
talk about what I saw
and how I felt.



**I am excited to go to the
Gainesville Circus Center
and have a great time at
the sensory -friendly
show!**



**If you have questions about
the show or need different
accessibility from the story,
please email
info@gainesvillecircus.com.**

