At the DAN School of Drama and Music we are committed to improving the accessibility of our venues, shows, and overall department standards. We make theatre for our whole community, and it is important to us that our policies reflect that to the best of our ability.

For detailed information regarding specific accessibility needs, please contact Accessibility Coordinator Heather Lundrigan at 15hisl@queensu.ca. We are happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have.

*Please note that this show does utilize lights and sound, as well as a live orchestra, and the play runs for approximately 100 minutes with no intermission*
Venue Accessibility

“The Drowsy Chaperone” will be going up in the Rotunda Theatre in Theological Hall. Accessible parking is available at the back entrance of Theological Hall, off of Fifth Field Company Lane. The front of house and washrooms are wheelchair accessible. Because this is a historic building, there are different entry points for audience members with decreased mobility or wheelchairs. If you or someone you are attending the performance with cannot use the staircase leading into the theatre, you have the option to be guided around the side of the building by an usher. Additionally, there will be ushers inside during each performance to assist you if necessary.

To get a guide into the theatre, simply ask one of the Front of House staff, and they will be happy to lead you into the venue from our alternate entrance. Attached below are photos of how exactly you’ll enter the theatre.
Continue around the curved side of the building

Side door to theatre is located here
Guidance

If you require assistance to enter the venue, our team is happy to assist you.

**Familiarization Visits** - We invite you to come tour our venue prior to the show. To schedule a visit, please contact Heather.

**Sighted Guides** - Our trained ushers and Front of House staff will be available every performance to assist you should you require sighted support to traverse the venue. If you know this is something you’ll need, please contact Heather prior to the performance.

**Optimal Seating for Hearing Impaired Audience Members** - Should you have concerns that hearing the performance could be an issue for you, please contact Heather prior to the performance and we will reserve a seat in the theatre with the best possible sound quality.

Relaxed Performance - November 9th at 2:30pm
A Relaxed Performance is a version of the show that is designed to welcome audience members from all walks of life. While originally designed to accommodate disabilities, the relaxed performance setting is also popular for patrons with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Tourette’s syndrome, ADHD, families with young children, first time theatre goers - or anyone who feels that they could benefit from a more relaxed setting.

The show’s content and performance is exactly the same, with the added benefit of a relaxed attitude towards noise and movement. Some technical aspects are adjusted to relax the performance such as the softening of loud sounds, slowing light changes, or keeping house lights on (but dimmed) throughout the performance.

A part of a relaxed performance is also a change in attitude towards theatre etiquette and the expectations of patrons of each other. Please note that our show does not have an intermission, and as such, audience members may come and go throughout the performance as they please. During a relaxed performance, the audience may feel that they have more freedom to leave and return because of the nature of the event. As well, this allows for those who may make involuntary noises or movements feel safe, and encourages families with children to come to a show that they know they won’t be hushed at.

It is important that everyone knows they are welcome at a relaxed performance! That’s why this semester we are offering Pay What You Can tickets for our relaxed performance. This not only encourages our community to attend and learn more about relaxed performance (and additionally how it’s not much different from a typical show), but also breaks down another barrier to the accessibility of our shows, which is ticket price. Tickets to the relaxed performance can only be purchased at the door on the day of the performance. To purchase tickets to another performance, please go here:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-drowsy-chaperone-tickets-78633104733

**Health and Safety**

Queen’s University is lucky to have a First Aid Campus Response Team that is available for emergencies 24/7 during the academic school year. The Rotunda Theatre is also located just steps from Kingston General Hospital. In the event of
an emergency, Queen’s First Aid is available, as well as regular emergency services at KGH.
One of the initiatives we have taken on for our Fall Major this year is encouraging a **scent reduced environment**. What this means is that we are taking every effort to reduce the fragrances that audience members can be exposed to.

Audience members with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and other allergies/conditions can be negatively affected by the use of chemically or naturally scented products. Some of the symptoms individuals with MCS can face are: headache, fatigue, nausea, congestion, itching, sneezing, sore-throat, chest pain, changes in heart rhythm, asthma-like conditions, muscle pain/stiffness, rashes, intestinal distress, seizures, migraines, confusion, memory problems, and mood changes.

Because these symptoms can be so severe and last for even weeks after exposure, we ask that you consider what fragrances you’re wearing in the space, and we’re taking every step to ensure the cast and crew of this show take the same into consideration.

You can help us facilitate a scent reduced environment by:

1. Not wearing perfumes or colognes, and taking care to use scent free lotions, shampoos, deodorants, etc.
2. Washing clothing in scent-free detergent. (Wash these clothes more than once in scent free detergent if you have previously washed in scented detergent)

We acknowledge that there are prohibitive factors to transitioning to a scent free lifestyle, but any effort helps us maintain a welcoming environment for everyone. If you’re interested in learning more about scent-reduced environments, you can find out more [here](#).