



what to expect

AT SENSORY-FRIENDLY
MOVIE NIGHT

Greensboro Downtown Parks, Inc., in collaboration with InFocus Advocacy, is piloting its first sensory-friendly movie night on **Friday, June 14 at the Spartan Cinema screening of *Ferdinand* (PG).**

With the goal of creating all future movie nights accessible to and inclusive of our entire community, this night will be a test-run of how we can create an experience in an environment better designed for people of all abilities. With the help of professionals and self-advocate consultants from the InFocus team, GDPI staff have been working to develop this program as the first step in making improvements to the entire park experience. Like all movie nights in the park, this film screening is **FREE** and open to everyone. The changes we make here are designed to improve the program experience universally, so please come out and enjoy with all of our neighbors.

Here's what to expect:

The movie night experience: Every Friday throughout the summer, LeBauer Park hosts movie nights via our UNC Greensboro-sponsored program, Spartan Cinema. Movie nights are free to attend and offer the opportunity to see a variety of films, from family favorites to comedies and big action blockbusters, in the open air on warm summer nights. On average, about 350 people attend movie nights each week, though some movie nights have pulled as large a crowd as 800 people. When the Great Lawn opens for seating at 5:00 PM, people slowly start filling in. Movies start at sunset, due to the lighting needs of our projector, and the closer it gets to start time, the fuller the crowd becomes. The earlier you arrive, the better for any preferred seating.

Before the start of each film, UNCG often hosts activities from a variety of local partners. We also generally have music playing before the start of the film, and you'll see children running around on the lawn, people eating their picnic dinners or grabbing a bite from one of our food kiosks, and generally everyone still enjoying the other amenities at the park, such as the Children's Garden and the interactive fountain in the Seasonal Plaza.

Before the start of the film, Park Ambassadors will be setting the stage with equipment to show the

movie. We use a large blow-up screen for showing the film, and for the public's safety, we have a marked buffer zone near the front of the stage, which we ask members of the audience not to cross. We use two large speakers on either side of the stage, projecting sound in one direction from the front, and all films are screened with closed captions. As it gets closer to the film screening, park staff make announcements and continue their rounds through the crowd, offering assistance with any needs. Once the sun has set, the park lights come on, and the film is enjoyed under the pink glow of Janet Echelman's hanging sculpture, *Where We Met*.

Throughout the film, park staff will be on hand to assist with any needs. Once the film has ended, we allow the movie credits to run through before turning on the main lights at the stage. We ask that park guests make their exits as quickly as they are able, as our staff work to tear down from movie night and close the park facility. We additionally ask that visitors show care to this shared space by cleaning up after themselves. Park staff and security will be on site at the park until the last guest has left safely.

Critical Details:

Sensory triggers: On the whole, Ferdinand (PG) is a gentle family film, and for this reason, was selected to pilot the sensory-friendly movie experience. However, we understand that sensory triggers are unique to each person, and would, therefore, encourage anyone concerned about certain triggers for any person in their party to preview the film. Most of the films we show at the park can be streamed from one online platform or another. However, we understand that not everyone has access to streaming services. The library generally has DVD copies and computers on which to view these movies. Greensboro Downtown Parks will also have a copy of the film available to preview in our office up to one week in advance. If interested in pre-screening the film with us, please email us at programming@greensborodowntownparks.org

Getting to the park: We recommend parking in the Church Street Parking Deck, located at 215 N Church St, Greensboro, NC 27401. Parking is free after 7:00 PM. Exit the Parking Deck via the elevators directly into LeBauer Park. Or take Greensboro's Public Transit to the Central Library stop on Route 15: Yanceyville St. / Brightwood School Rd.

Seating: The film screening takes place on the Great Lawn, underneath Janet Echelman's hanging sculpture, *Where We Met*. The lawn opens for seating at 5:00 PM, and will be sectioned to create pathways onto the grass that are accessible for members of our community using assistive mobility devices (see map for details). The front two sections of the lawn, nearest the screen, are reserved for blanket seating, with the sections behind for chairs. We encourage anyone utilizing a wheelchair or scooter to sit with their group in either the blanket or chair sections.

If anyone in your party is generally overwhelmed by large crowds, consider bringing blankets to designate sections of space comfortable to everyone in your group. There will be two speakers at the stage projecting sound in one direction, so if concerned about the volume of the film as a sensory trigger for anyone in your party, consider sitting further back on the lawn, or bringing headphones if available.

The crowd generally fills in the front sections of the lawn first, leaving more open space near the back for

anyone concerned about having more room to move freely about throughout the screening of the film. The pathways along the perimeter of the lawn also remain open for ease of movement throughout the film.

Restrooms: The LeBauer bathhouse is located directly next to the Great Lawn. All restrooms are ADA compliant. Gendered restroom main doors will remain propped open throughout the movie night for ease of entrance and exit. Three family restrooms may be accessed via the Children's Garden, just on the other side of the bathhouse. Bathrooms are equipped with self-flushing mechanisms and automatic faucets.

Food & Drink: Ghassan's Fresh Mediterranean Eats and PorterHouse Burger Company will be open throughout the movie screening; menus for Ghassan's and PorterHouse are available to view under the Visit section of our website, greensborodowntownparks.org. Kona Ice and Over the Rainbow Kettle Corn will also be on site selling concessions. Picnics are welcome, but alcohol is prohibited, except that which is purchased from Ghassan's or PorterHouse.

Staff: Park Ambassadors are available to provide assistance in any way throughout the program and daily in our parks. At this movie night, they will be wearing grey polo shirts and a nametag. Staff have been trained by the InFocus team to provide the best experience to all park visitors. A security officer will also be on site to help ensure safety in the park. Meet our Park Ambassadors who will be on site during this sensory-friendly movie night:



Emily**



Tara



Brandon



Taylor

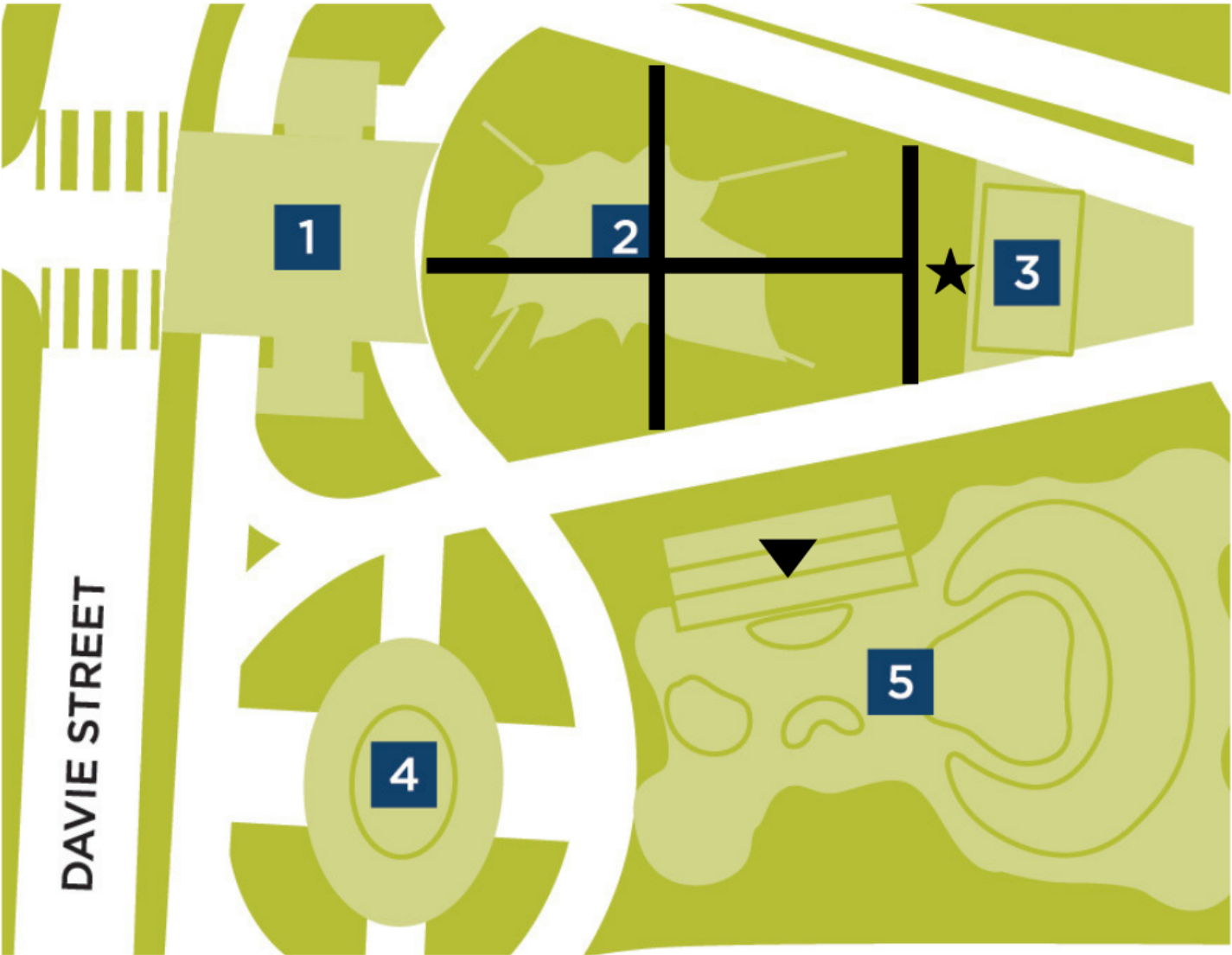


Taija**

** Emily and Taija are conversational in American Sign Language, and are currently students at UNCG majoring in Professions in Deafness: Interpreter Preparation Program.

Special spaces: The Children's Garden will remain open for free play throughout the program. Children must be accompanied by an adult inside of the Children's Garden gate. The interactive fountain in the park's Seasonal Plaza will be open until 7:00 PM. Once the film begins at sunset (8:37 PM), this area of the park becomes a designated Calming Space for anyone experiencing stress or sensory overwhelm. From the Seasonal Plaza, there is still a view of the Great Lawn and the movie screening. Other areas of the park become quiet once the movie starts, as well, so you may also consider using Carolyn's Garden or the South Lawn if in need of a space away from the crowd to decompress.

Maps:



- 1 Downtown Greensboro Square & food kiosks
- 2 Great Lawn
- 3 Price Bryan Stage, where the movie screen and sound equipment are setup
- 4 VF Seasonal Plaza, and designated Calming Space for movie night
- 5 Children's Garden
- Accessible pathways onto the Great Lawn
- ★ Movie screen buffer zone
- ▼ Bathhouse

LEBAUER PARK



Movie Details: Ferdinand (PG, 1 hour, 48min.). Sunset time 8:37 PM.

Ferdinand is a young bull who escapes from a training camp in rural Spain after his father never returns from a showdown with a matador. Adopted by a girl who lives on a farm, Ferdinand's peaceful existence comes crashing down when the authorities return him to his former captors. With help from a wisecracking goat and three hedgehogs, the giant but gentle bovine must find a way to break free before he squares off against El Primero, the famous bullfighter who never loses.

About InFocus Advocacy: InFocus is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that works with self-advocates, families, and communities to enhance the image of people living with a disability. The InFocus team includes paid self-advocate consultants who, with the support of professionals, develop training programs to meet the needs of businesses and organizations who desire to provide more inclusive services in our community. Since its beginnings in 2010, InFocus has been educating the Greensboro community and beyond on the value of inclusive services, programming, and environments.

Contact InFocus Advocacy regarding training opportunities for your business:
coordinator@infocusadvocacy.org.

