

AT&T PERFORMING ARTS CENTER *presents*

# aurora

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## FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

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*WELCOME TO AURORA*, a free and public contemporary art exhibition centered in the 68-acre Dallas Arts District.

This expansive and immersive exhibition presents interactive light, video, performance, and sound artworks in exciting and unexpected public spaces. Tonight, you and thousands of others will experience these exhibits in new and exciting ways, and we have a few guiding questions and ideas about how to make the most of your time at Aurora with your friends and family.

We can't wait to see what you come up with! Make sure and share your own photos, thoughts and ideas by using the hashtag **#dallasaurora** if you decide to share your experience.

## **PICAROON: GLOBAL SOUNDS** *at Klyde Warren Park (Zone 1)*

In this portion of the exhibit you will observe a light and sound installation that highlights the cultural diversity that migrants help create. The installation is comprised of seven pyramids, each with its own unique sound representing a different culture when activated.

1. Go to each pyramid. What do you hear? Can you mimic the sound?
2. By moving around the location, is there a place you can activate more than one pyramid? How many can you activate?
3. Is there a song or sound you identify with your own culture? If you can, record that song and share it on social media or check **#dallasaurora** to see if other students have shared new sounds with you!



## **RHONDA WEPLER & TREVOR MAHOVSKY:** **MIDNIGHT STAR MARKET** *at Klyde Warren Park (Zone 1)*

Rhonda Wepler and Trevor Mahovsky have created a corner store in the form of a lantern — and you can take one with you! As you approach the market, observe the store gradually darken as visitors select free lanterns to carry away.

1. What are the similarities you see between the 'Midnight Star Market' and the corner stores in your own community? What do you think you might have in common with these artists?
2. Now you get to help change the exhibit — you are a collaborating artist! Select a lantern among those remaining and maybe take a photo of it in a new location.
3. See if you can find another market-inspired exhibit at Aurora and if there are elements you recognize or are distinctly different from the 'Midnight Star Market.'

*HINT: Olaniyi Rasheed Akindiya's Shopping List is located in the Hall Arts Center parking garage.*



## **MARI HIDALGO KING: VALLEY OF THE GIANT**

*at Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center (Zone 3)*

Each piece in this installation is usually seen individually. So with this rare opportunity, the artist chose to assemble a collection of these unpredictable air giants to ignite laughter, joy and unity in all the viewers lucky enough to rally with the ‘Valley of the Giant’ for one night.

1. Did you know The Valley of the Giants is the name of a 51-acre forest preserve in Oregon? Look at the installation — can you see the shape of trees? Or do you recognize the motion of leaves in the air giants anywhere?
2. Can you join the giants? Try to mimic the movement and the shape of King’s ‘Valley of the Giant’ with your own body. Can you make yourself into the shape of one of the giants? Snap a picture and share it using **#dallasaurora**. We can’t wait to see you in the installation!

## **LASERIST TOM HARMAN: INSPIRED BY DALI**

*at AT&T Performing Arts Center (Zone 4)*

Visual Artist and Laserist Tom Harman viewed a unique line drawing used by Dali in the creation of his artwork, while visiting the Salvador Dali Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Salvador Dali was an artist who is sometimes called the Father of Surrealism. Dali was very inspired by his dreams.

1. Have you seen anything tonight that reminds you of a dream? Or doesn’t seem real in some way?
2. If you were an artist selected to exhibit at Aurora, what would you dream up? With your parent or guardian’s permission, tell us on Twitter or on our Facebook page using **#dallasaurora**.

You can find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/dallasaurora](http://www.facebook.com/dallasaurora) or on Twitter at [@dallasaurora](https://twitter.com/dallasaurora).



## DGDG, SLIK STOCKINGS, THE COLOR CONDITION: SOCIAL STUDIES & OTHER TO-DOS

at AT&T Performing Arts Center (Zone 4)

This is a collaborative performance installation that explores the idea of celebration through the cyclical nature of seasons.

1. Every year we go through a cycle of seasons and celebrations! And every culture has a different calendar or ritual to honor these seasons and celebrations. What do you and your family or friends do to mark special occasions? What is something you recently celebrated?
2. Tonight in 'Social Studies and Other To-Dos', artists in DGDG and Slik Stocking in costumes by The Color Condition will be teaching and performing dances rooted in Greek culture. If this dance is new to you, tonight is the perfect time to learn it from these talented artists.
3. These artists want you to join their celebration! Help this installation come to life by learning the dances presented in 'Social Studies and Other To-Dos' and joining the party. Now you are a performance artist too!



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*Special thanks to our educational partners at Dallas Contemporary and DGDG Dance.*

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