

Kelli O'Hara
C/O Perennial Entertainment

March 20, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am delighted to submit this letter in support of ADI's Broadway pilot program, SEATS ON THE SPECTRUM, which aims to improve access to mainstream theatrical productions for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

My time performing on stage and screen has made me passionate about the role of theater to advance social and medical goals, both in the New York area and across the country. I have strongly advocated for groups like SAY (The Stuttering Association for the Youth), Kids in the Balcony, Kids Night on Broadway and even The Cancer Support Community who all use the power of theatre to promote wellness for those they serve. I believe deeply that the Broadway community must shine a spotlight on the issues affecting our communities and also be a resource in healing those issues.

This spirit must now extend to ensuring greater inclusion for theatergoers with autism and their caregivers. Attending a Broadway performance is a singular experience: sharing the magic of live performance with family and friends creates indelible memories and exposes young people to the myriad of careers unpinning the vast Broadway economy.

This Broadway Pilot Program recognizes that everyone can enjoy a theatrical performance and recognizes that other cultural sectors are lightyears ahead of ours when it comes to including people with autism and other forms of neurodivergence on a day-to-day basis.

Individuals with ASD and their families will need the support of Broadway performers, and I am honored to be part of the "hearts and minds" outreach to all patrons.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KOH', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kelli O'Hara