

Disability Access and Representation Present in American Regional Theaters

For my Capstone Project, I have surveyed the physical accessibility of theaters and accommodations available to audiences, as well as any staff, actors, or designers in multiple regional theaters through venue walk-throughs and a google form survey. The survey was compiled in collaboration with numerous disabled theatremakers and audiences. This research will showcase the level of accessibility in regional theaters, with the hope that it will be used as a tool for assessing how to best increase access initiatives within the community. With the rise of EDI-focused [entities and standards](#) in the Los Angeles theater scene and beyond since the summer of 2020, multiple venues are starting to work on creating more inclusive theatrical environments. I am surveying what steps theaters are taking to welcome the disabled population in order to set the groundwork for concrete actions regional theaters can implement to continue on a course of inclusion for the disabled community. I will compile the data and present it to the general theatrical community through a visual research study. If there are barriers to access within the theatrical landscape, disabled performers and practitioners are not able to access said space to start conversations regarding access and exist as professionals in the industry. Thus, this study will open opportunities for critical analysis of the theatrical industry to create greater access for this population and further conversation surrounding disabled bodies in theater.