Auditorium/Theater/Performing Arts Center

Use the following questions to think about ways of increasing safety and security in your school. For more information, see *Mitigating Hazards in School Facilities*, http://www.ncef.org/safeschools/index.cfm .

Location _____ **Date** _____
(Make a copy for each space)

■ Are there separate, secure, controllable entrances to the auditorium, theater, or center for after-hours activities? Is attendee access to the rest of the school controlled?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Do clear sight lines allow for visual surveillance?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Do seating and circulation layouts reduce or eliminate traffic flow conflicts?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Is there a secure and fireproof storage for stage equipment, props, costumes, and tools?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Is suspended lighting equipment and cabling safe and in good repair?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Is lighting and scenery hoisting equipment in good repair?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Is access to catwalks, scaffolding, and upper level platforms limited and controlled?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Are stage lighting and electrical equipment controls located in locked panels?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Does the auditorium, theater, or center layout avoid features that could contribute to accidental falls? An alternative to an orchestra pit is to provide several rows of removable seats at the front of the auditorium.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

■ Are stage and other draperies or hangings non-flammable or fire-retardant?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study
Note:

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■ If there are dressing rooms, are they safe and easily supervised?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study

Note:

■ Are wall- or ceiling-mounted televisions, projectors, screens, or other heavy objects secured from falling due to student misbehavior or natural disasters?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study

Note:

■ In earthquake-prone areas, are partitions that terminate at hung ceilings properly braced to the structure above? Heavy partitions are particularly vulnerable to strong earthquake forces because of their stiffness and mass and are prone to damage.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study

Note:

■ In earthquake-prone areas, are plaster and gypsum board ceilings adequately supported and secured to structural framing?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study

Note:

■ In earthquake-prone areas, are suspended lighting fixtures, suspended ceiling systems braced and provided with safety wires?

- Lighting fixtures, ceiling systems, and other overhead components or objects should be mounted to minimize the likelihood that they will fall and injure building occupants.
- Lay-in fluorescent lights should be supported independent of the ceiling grid. Spot lights and track lights should be securely attached to the structure.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐ Further study

Note:

Additional notes and comments: