Disc One
Introduction to Technical Theater

A great overview of theater professionals and their responsibilities. This program is also appropriate for acting and survey classes.

- Classifies the different roles in the theater hierarchy from producer and director, to conductor and vocal coach, to tech director and the many and varied various technicians.
- Takes your students on a video field trip of Proscenium, Thrust, and Arena stages in professional, state-of-the-art facilities and a stage in a school gym.
- Tour of a professional theater from the ticket booth to the green room, including the names of all the curtains, shops, backstage and FOH areas.
- Visually subdivides the stage into the nine traditional acting areas, and addresses the 8 different directions scenery (and actors) can face the audience.

Hosts: Bob Fowler and Marti Fowler.

Lesson Overview

Day 1  
14 minutes
- Theater Hierarchy - Producer
- Theater Hierarchy- Technical Director and Technical Crews

Day 2  
9 minutes
- Theater Hierarchy- Stage Manager and Running Crews
- Types of Theaters and Stages - Proscenium

Day 3  
11 minutes
- Types of Theaters and Stages - Thrust
- Types of Theaters and Stages - Arena
- Types of Theaters and Stages - Creative Staging
- Stage Geography

Day 4  
- Review Theater Hierarchy, Types of Stages, Stage Geography
- Assessment: Lesson Design Resource Sheets, Written Assessment Sheets

Day 5  
5 minutes
- Parts of a Stage

Day 6  
5 minutes
- Parts of a Stage Continued

Day 7  
- Parts of a Stage Assessment: Lesson Design Resource Sheets, Written Assessment Sheets

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Disc Two
Basic Set Construction & Theater Safety

- Demonstrates how to become a safe and efficient stage carpenter.
- Identifies basic safety rules that apply to any theater, including the three basic tool safety categories (measuring and marking, cutting and shaping, and joining tools), construction, and finally set strike.
- Tours a completed interior set, then takes students back to the shop for sections on constructing practical set pieces (platforms, stair units and wagons) flat construction (including joining techniques like hinges, lash lines, battens/keeper hooks) and how to dutchman.
- Explores options for dressing out a set with props.

Hosts: Bob Fowler and Marti Fowler.

Lesson Overview

Day 1
- General Theater Safety Resource Sheet
- Measuring and Marking Tools Safety Resource Sheet

Day 2
- Measuring and Marking Tools-Safety Written Assessment

Day 3
- Cutting-Joining Tools Resource Sheet

Day 4
- Materials Resource Sheet
- Fasteners Resource Sheet

Day 5
- Cutting-Joining-Materials Written Assessment

Day 6
- Set-Housing Differences Resource Sheet
- Platforms Resource Sheet

Day 7
- Legging Platforms Resource Sheet
- Wagons Resource Sheet

Day 8
- Stairs Resource Sheet

Day 9
- Practical Units of Scenery Written Assessment

Day 10
- Flats Resource Sheet

Day 11 Part One
- Flats Construction Test

Day 11 Part Two
- Covering, Joining, Dutching Flats Resource Sheet

Day 12
- Review for Written Assessment

Day 13
- Covering, Joining, Dutching Flats Written Assessment

Day 14
- Strike Safety Resource Sheet

Day 15
- Strike Safety Written Assessment

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Disc Three

Lighting for Theater

This hands-on primer will produce results on your stage by giving your students the skills required to light a stage evenly, establish basic moods, create some basic special effects, and troubleshoot many common problems.

- Walks students through a step-by-step process for lighting a show, from designing and executing a basic light plot, hanging, circuiting, patching, subbing and cueing.
- Differentiates the creative uses of various lighting instruments and control equipment.

Hosts: Bob Fowler and Marti Fowler.

Lesson Overview

Day 1
- Reasons for Using Stage Lighting
- 3 Controllable Qualities of Light – Intensity

Day 2
- 3 Controllable Qualities of Light – Color
- 3 Controllable Qualities of Light – Distribution

Day 3
- Types of Lighting Instruments
- Lighting Positions
- Review for Written Assessment

Day 4
- Review for Written Assessment
- Written Assessment

Day 5
- Basic Lighting Design
- Doing a Hanging Plot

Day 6
- Patching Schedule
- Cueing the Show
- Hanging, Focusing, and Gelling your Show
- Troubleshooting Common Problems

Day 7
- Review for Written Assessment
- Written Assessment

Day 8-9
- Design a light plot for a one-act play (OPTIONAL)
Disc Four
Audio for Theater

Bring an industry recognized audio expert into your classroom with this program.

- Analyzes the components of a typical theater sound system: microphones, mixing consoles, signal processing, speakers and their placement, intercom and stage announce systems, playback systems for sound effects, and power sources.
- Compares and contrasts different microphones (wired and wireless) to understand how to choose the right mic for different situations.
- Has great recommendations for troubleshooting feedback, fuzzy signals, speakers cutting out, and other common problems.

Host: Audio Engineer David Eisenhauer. Eisenhauer’s credits include live shows such as Bon Jovi, Sheryl Crow, Enrique Iglesias and John Mellencamp.

Lesson Overview

Day 1
- Responsibilities of the sound crew
- What is Sound?
- Components of a sound system

Day 2
- Microphones
- Dynamic vs Condenser
- Pick-up Patterns
- Types and Applications
- Wireless Microphones

Day 3
- Written Assessment

Day 4
- Front of House
- Signal Levels
- Mixers/Consoles and Mix Position
- Recording/Playback Formats

Day 5
- Amplifiers
- Speakers, Cross-overs
- Powered Speakers
- Speaker Placement and Safety

Day 6
- Signal Processing
- Audio and Electricity
- Intercom/Announce Systems
- Cables and Connectors

Day 7
- Setting Up Your System

Day 8
- Helpful Hints and Troubleshooting

Day 9
- Written Assessment
With hands-on demonstrations and real world tips, this program will have your students running shows like professionals in no time!

- **A New Overview Section** identifies what a stage manager does, from pre-show conferences to closing night in Limited, Touring, and Extended runs.
- Detailed sections illustrate rehearsal skills like Taping the Stage, Making Prompt Books and Calling Scripts, Using Blocking and Cueing Shorthand, Running Production Meetings, and other tricks of the trade.
- **A New Communication Section** addresses when to use Electronic Media, Individual Notes, and when to communicate Face-to-Face.
- Focuses on Technical Rehearsals and Performances, including Pre-Show Protocol, how to actually Call a Show, and how to avoid, prepare for, and, when necessary, handle Common Problems.
- More New Sections include: Maintaining a Show, Touring and Extended Runs, Stage Managing Musicals, and Careers in Stage Management.

**Hosts:** J. Jason Daunter, a New York based professional stage manager. He is an Educational Theatre Association board member, and a driving force behind EdTA's "Defying Gravity" initiative.

Tom Martin, a professional Director, Stage and Production Manager for 35 years.

**Lesson Overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>13 minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-rehearsal responsibilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehearsal responsibilities</td>
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<td>Performance / maintenance responsibilities</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
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<td>Technology and Communication</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>18 minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read for enjoyment, props and costume piece list</td>
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<td>French Scene Breakdown</td>
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<td>Read the Play For Technical Requirements</td>
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<td>Documents, Supplies, and Things To Secure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehearsal props &amp; Costume Pieces, Groundplan &amp; drawings</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>11 minutes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Taping the Floor</td>
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<td>Building the Book</td>
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<td>Different ways to obtain materials</td>
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<td>Physically build the book</td>
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<th>Day 4</th>
<th>15 minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arranging the Furniture for First Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Talking to the Director</td>
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<td>Talking to the actors about the first rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day 5</th>
<th>29 minutes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Idiosyncrasies of your particular theatre / First rehearsal</td>
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<td>Production Meetings</td>
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<td>Blocking notation</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day 6</th>
<th>17 minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Your check list</td>
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<td>Calling the show</td>
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<td>Maintaining the technical aspect and the actors</td>
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<td>Performance reports</td>
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<td>Emergencies</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day 7</th>
<th>22 minutes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stage Managing / Maintaining a Long Run Show:</td>
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<td>Touring a Show</td>
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**Now available from Theatrefolk**
Visit theatrefolk.com/ptt for pricing and ordering
This program illustrates how to maintain top-notch production values in facilities that range from the high school “cafetorium” to state-of-the-art theaters.

- Explores various types of common interior and exterior set design styles: Box Sets, Unit Sets, and Wing and Drop Sets, as well as combinations of those three types.
- Demonstrates how to analyze a script to determine technical demands.
- Offers hands-on group projects such as researching for period plays, working with the director and other designers to achieve a specific style the production concept, and considering directional compositions in the design.
- Analyzes common aspects of set design including sightlines, furniture placement and traffic patterns, and basic scale drawing.

Hosts: Bob Fowler and Marti Fowler.

Lesson Overview

Day 1
- Introduction to Set Design
- Tour of a Typical Theater
- Script Analysis (part 1)

Day 2
- Script Analysis (parts 2&3)

Day 3
- Design Analysis and Styles
- Differences between Actual Buildings and Sets

Day 4
- Tour of a Completed Set
- Scale Drawings

Day 5
- Preparing to Build Your Model Set
- Front Elevations and Model

Days 6-13
- Preparing to Build Your Model Set (continued)
  - Walls, Floors and Platforms
  - Furniture
  - Painting Your Model

Day 14
- Rear Elevations and Working Drawings
- Exterior Sets and Unit Sets
- Resumes and Portfolios
- Review for Unit Test

Day 15
- Review and Written Assessment

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Visit theatrefolk.com/ptt for pricing and ordering
Disc Seven
Lighting Design

This program is an extension of, and should be used after, Lighting For Theater. It explores advanced concepts of lighting design by investigating the process of designing and executing a complete light plot that incorporates many special effects.

- Demonstrates how to analyze a script with “designer’s eyes,” and the collaborative process of working with the director and other designers.
- Compares and contrasts common representational and presentational production styles.
- Analyzes color theory, angles of light and other design considerations.
- Explores how to design a hanging plot, how to create instrument and patching schedules, and how to cue a show on both computerized and manual lighting controllers.

Hosts: Bob Fowler and Marti Fowler.

Lesson Overview

Day 1
21 minutes
• Introduction to Lighting Design
• Reasons for Using Stage Lighting
• General Qualities of Light: Transmission, Absorption, Reflection and Refraction

Day 2
18 minutes
• Controllable Qualities of Light: Intensity and Distribution

Day 3
11 minutes
• Color in Light

Day 4
16 minutes
• The Design Process

Day 5
25 minutes
• Lighting a Basic Box Set
• The Hanging Plot, Instrument Schedule, Cue Sheets

Day 6
28 minutes
• Designing for a Larger Theater Space
• Hanging Plot for Richard III
• Patching and Cueing Richard III

Day 7
• Review and Written Assessment

Day 8-10
• Lighting Design Project

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Disc Eight

Business & House Management

Enter the working world of the “business of show business” with this program. Develop a system to build patron loyalty, manage ticket sales, create budgets, and prepare for the unexpected.

- Discover new ways to publicize your plays, fill the seats in your theater, and make the program grow within your school environment.
- Outlines the best strategies for managing ticket distribution, preparing and printing programs, handling facility preparation and maintenance, training your staff in performance protocol, and handling emergencies.

Script written by Lana Hagan, faculty SIU Edwardsville and EdTA Hall of Fame Member. Ms. Hagan has presented Business and House Management workshops at conferences across the US.

Hosts: Bob Fowler and Marti Fowler.

Lesson Overview

Day 1
- 18 minutes
  - Hierarchy and Marketing Plan
  - Involving Your School and Community

Day 2
- 18 minutes
  - PSAs and News Releases
  - Posters
  - Fine Arts Booster Clubs
  - Patron Programs

Day 3
- 15 minutes
  - Tickets – Producing and Selling Them

Day 4
- 12 minutes
  - Programs

Day 5
- 13 minutes
  - Production Budgets

Day 6
- 14 minutes
  - House Manager/Staff Responsibilities
  - Building Your Program

Day 7
- Review and Written Assessment

Now available from Theatrefolk
Visit theatrefolk.com/ptt for pricing and ordering
Disc Nine

Careers in Theatre

This program provides video and stills showing professionals working in their specialized areas, including:

- Performers, playwrights, composers, stagehands, dressers, designers, scenics, FOH personnel, directors, choreographers, business management personnel, TDs, production managers, crafts personnel, stitchers, drapers, casting directors, and more!
- Different types of theatres (NY, Regional, Touring).
- A second DVD that has interviews with working professionals to help your students discover what a typical day at work is like, what the most satisfying and challenging parts of their profession are, what kind of training their job requires, what their day to day lives are like, and which jobs demand irregular hours and travel.
- How to get into the different theatrical unions, what the unions offer, and careers in theatre education.

Lesson Overview

Day 1

Employment Opportunities
Examines 4 very different venues, from a 10,700 seat outdoor musical venue, to a large outdoor Shakespeare Festival, an Opera company that runs in true repertory, and finally more traditional Stock company.

Professional Theatre – or who’s going to hire me?
This section examines producing organizations, and common types of runs: Limited, Extended/Open-ended, Stock, and True Repertory.

Day 2

What are the differences between Commercial and Not-For-Profit Theatres?

Day 3

An overview of the most common theatrical unions, and some things to consider before joining one of them.

Day 4

Jobs in Theatre
Theatre Management: (e.g. company manager, house manager, box office manager, director of development, education director, director of marketing, etc.)

Pre-Show / Performance Staff: Artistic director, director, designers, casting director, theatrical agents, actors, stage manager, choreographer, dance captain, vocal coach, dialect coach, dramaturg, running crews, etc.

Day 5

Production Staff: production manager, technical director, carpenters, props, electricians, drapers, stitchers, trimmers, dressers, wardrobe supervisor, stage managers, audio techs, scenic artists, scenic charge, etc.

Day 6

Meet the owner of large production company, and learn about job opportunities in that facility.

Day 7-8

Interviews with Professionals
May be viewed individually.

Actor (Actors Equity Association), Costumer (United Scenic Artists 829), Set Designer (United Scenic Artists 829), Stagehand (IATSE Local 6), Director/Choreographer (Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers), Dresser/Wig Specialist (IATSE), Production Supervisor (Repertory Theatre of St. Louis), Artistic Director (Repertory Theatre of St. Louis), and Executive Producer (Fox Theatricals).

Day 9

Written Assessment

Now available from Theatrefolk
Visit theatrefolk.com/ptt for pricing and ordering
Disc Ten
Costuming for Theatre

This program is written and hosted by Terry McGonigle, an EdTA Hall of Fame inductee. It is a two week unit that will help your students discover...

- The Design Process, script and character analysis, research, the functions and elements of costume design, and costume charts and plots.
- Figure Drawing, even for people who are convinced they cannot draw!
- Drawing Fabrics, including patterns, print, texture.
- Moving from two to three dimensions, and how to buy, build and rebuild costumes.
- Turning old into new by creating period clothing from modern pieces.
- Accessorizing to complete the look.

Lesson Overview

Day 1

Introduction and the Script
Section includes a short play to start script analysis, or you may choose to use a play you have available. Included is a short written assessment.

Day 2

Functions of Costume Design
- Functions
- Knowing the Characters
- Research
- How to do a Costume Chart
Section includes several character analysis formats geared specifically towards costume design. Included is a short written assessment.

Day 3-4

Elements of Costume Design, and Developing a Design Concept
Section includes several resource sheets addressing elements of design, and a short written assessment.

Day 5-6

Drawing the Human Form (7.5 Heads Formula), Drawing the Basic Body (actual process done by students).
Section includes lots of replaying short sections, and pausing program as students draw on resource sheets.

Day 7

Applying Clothes to the Body
Section includes lots of replaying short sections, and pausing program as students draw on resource sheets.

Day 8

- Turning New into Old
- Professional Opportunities in Costuming
- Review for Unit Written Assessment

Day 9

- Written Assessment

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Visit theatrefolk.com/ptt for pricing and ordering