



Welcome to Technical Theatre

Instructors: Mr. Durak and Mr. Ingerson

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Major Description: Technical Theatre is a four-year sequence based on projects developed for Stage Set Construction at BAVPA. The program is a collaboration between the Career and Technical Education and Special Education Departments of the Buffalo Public Schools.

During their Freshman year students will take Career and Financial Management. The focus of this year will concentrate on personal finances and career exploration with an introduction to the Scene Shop. As a sophomore and junior, student's individual and group assignments will re-introduce and solidify the foundations of set construction applications. Finally, during senior year, in addition to being leaders in the Theatre Scene Shop and set construction, students will have an added opportunity to intern with our many partners throughout Buffalo. In addition to the Senior Internship, any student who has reached the age of 16 will be provided the opportunity to work on supervised Habitat for Humanity volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

In Tech Theater you will primarily learn how to navigate your way through the Theatre's Scene Shop. Students will learn how to professionally use a variety of power and hand tools. The application of those skills will be used to construct and deconstruct various school productions. In addition to basic carpentry skills and set construction, students will learn various theatre and stage vocabulary, painting skills from basic to advanced, with an introduction to elements of lighting and sound design.

In addition to *auditioning* for any show at BAVPA, these are some added ways to participate in a show: *Stage Crew, Usher Crew, Construction Crew, Sound Crew, Lighting Crew and or Ticket Sales.*

SUPPLIES AND TEXTBOOK: Each student should maintain a 3 ring binder or folder. As our text, we will be using excerpts from Stagecraft 1, Practical Technical Theater and various construction manuals throughout the year. It is the student's responsibility to supply daily writing materials

Proper Apparel: Working in the Scene Shop, you will undoubtedly get dirty, accidents happen. Bring work clothes and shoes to store in a shop locker to **PROTECT** any good school clothes. Students should bring ponytail holders for long hair, remove loose jewelry and **always** wear school supplied safety glasses while in the shop.

Grading Policy: Grading for Technical Theatre is structured so that students who participate fully in classroom activities and complete all assignments should receive a grade of A or B. Students will earn grades for assessments, assignments and projects. It will be **MANDATORY** for all students to assist after school with two performances each year.

Remote Learning: During the remote learning phase the following projects will be implemented:

1. Emotional and Cultural discussions and student essays.
2. An “All About Me” project focusing on the student’s life, likes and future aspirations.
- PowerPoint computer skills are also a focus.
3. Additional subjects which we will continue to focus on will be:
 - General classroom and Shop Safety procedures
 - Power tools
 - Hand tools
 - Measurement
 - Lumber and its By-Products
 - Basic Set Design and Terminology
 - Career Exploration
 - Activities of Daily Living

DISCIPLINE: The most important things you’ll need to be successful in this class are a **POSITIVE ATTITUDE**, a **CREATIVE IMAGINATION** and **SELF-DISCIPLINE**. As we begin our school year, we must set some ground rules.

- 1) Follow the guidelines found in the BPS Code of Conduct and our Scene Shop Safety Rules.
- 2) Be punctual and prepared!!!! Participate in all activities as directed.
- 3) Respect yourself and everyone else in the room.
- 4) You must be trained and signed off on a machine or tool before use.
- 5) Headphone use is unauthorized in the Scene Shop.
- 6) Before beginning a task or using equipment, check with an instructor regarding proper procedures.
- 7) Always remain on task and avoid leaving a task incomplete!!
- 8) PLEASE **DO NOT BRING FOOD OR DRINK** INTO THE MAIN STAGE OR THE BLACKBOX THEATRE
- 9) NO HORSE PLAY IS ALLOWED IN THE THEATRE OR SHOP AREA.
The Scene Shop can be a very dangerous places!
- 10) When you are finished with a task, take the initiative and ask an instructor for direction.
DO NOT SIT AROUND AND WAIT TO BE TOLD WHAT TO DO.
- 11) Clean up everything before the bell rings. The **last 4 minutes** of class is just for cleaning up.
Everyone helps even if you didn’t create the mess!

Extra credit: will be given periodically during each 10-week cycle. You will have opportunities to receive extra credit by watching live theatre. Simply show us your ticket and program (Bring us an extra program because we collect them!). You may also stay after school or spend your study hall in the shop to earn extra credit. If you feel that you need more help or explanations, please contact either one of us.

MAKE-UP WORK: When you are absent, it is the student’s responsibility to make up missed assignments. Students who fail to complete make-up work will receive a zero (0) on the assignment.

And now, “Places, please!” The curtain is about to go up on an exciting year!

Gerry Durak and Jay Ingerson

Technical Theatre Instructors