



## TECHNICAL THEATRE FLOWER MOUND HIGH SCHOOL

Fall 2019

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John Patterson  
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12:02-1:55pm conference

Keli Wilson  
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2:00-3:35pm conference

Michael Valentine  
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2:00 - 3:35 conference

Melody Barnhart  
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9:58-11:34 conference

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of the many aspects of technical theatre. It will include units on theatre safety, etiquette, mechanics, play analysis, theatrical design and implementation (sound, lights, scenery, costumes, makeup). In addition to in class participation and several in class projects, **students are required to attend and critique the technical aspects of a live theatrical performance.** The term will also include each student presenting a comprehensive design project of an upcoming FMHS event. (The students will use their gained knowledge of technical theatre to implement one aspect of their design.) Students will be expected to attend work-calls during production rehearsals and performances

### OUTCOMES

Students will become familiar with all aspects of theatre safety. Students will recognize the organizational aspects of a “working theater”. Students will engage in research to create historically accurate set, costumes and props. Students will learn to build basic stock scenery (flats, platforms, ramps, doors, windows, etc...). Students will practice a variety of painting techniques appropriate for sets, scenery, and drops. Design concepts will be instilled in the students to spark a direction of theatrical motivation. Through this proficiency in technical theatre students will nurture and expand their self motivation, creative problem-solving ability, organizational skills, talent (artistic and technical), and cooperation.

## **OUTLINE OF EDUCATIONAL FOCUSES**

In the area of theatre safety, the student is expected to:

- a) Be familiar with facility and its basic operation
- b) Be familiar with theater safety terminology
- c) Show locations of exits, fire alarms, dressing rooms and storage spaces.

In the area of theatre organization, the student is expected to:

- a) Be familiar with all stage crew positions and their responsibilities
- b) Be able to discuss theatre hierarchy
- c) Participate in, at least, one crew position during the term

In the area of historical research, the student is expected to:

- a) Portray theatre as a reflection of life in a particular time, place and culture
- b) Analyze a script for mood, setting requirements, and time period.

In the area of set construction, the student is expected to:

- a) Identify basic tools necessary for a scene shop
- b) Learn the proper safety precautions for power tools in the scene shop
- c) Build a flat
- d) Use basic stock scenery to construct a set.

In the area of scenic painting, the student is expected to:

- a) Learn enlargement techniques
- b) Learn basic concepts of color
- c) Learn how to sponge, spatter, rag roll, dry brush, and stencil paint
- d) Experiment with paint mixing
- e) Experiment wood graining and texturing

In the area of stage design, the student is expected to:

- a) Create an overall design concept
- b) Draw a floor plan for assigned show
- c) Design a color scheme
- d) Build or locate a prop, costume, or set piece

## **ASSESSMENT**

**30%**- minor grades (quizzes, in class participation, daily assignments)

**50%**-major grades (projects, tests)

**20%** play evaluation, workcall

## **LIVE PLAY EVALUATION**

All theatre students are required to see each FMHS play each (one per 9 week grading period). You must attend the entire show to receive full credit for the critique. MOST SHOWS HAVE AN INTERMISSION. Each student is required to fill out the tech performance critique worksheet, one

for each show, for a test grade. All students are also required to provide a formal 5-paragraph typed review of ANY live, full length play production for a test grade. Critiques are due within 2 weeks after attending the performance. The last day to turn in the critiques is:

**Friday December 13 2019.**

**THERE IS NO ALTERNATE ASSIGNMENT FOR THIS GRADE.** This is not a pay for a grade situation- It is meant to expose you to more theatre. If money is an issue, please approach me and I will assist you in attending a FMHS show.

### **Show dates**

*Red Velvet Cake War* September 19-21

*Pinocchio* October 17-19

November 14-16

### **TECH AFTER SCHOOL CALLS-**

All students are required to gain hands-on experience in an after school Tech call for one of our productions. Tech calls occur after school throughout the semester and students must sign-up for a time on Canvas to attend. Students **MUST sign-up for a minimum of one call** (1.5 hours) and maximum of four (6 hours) Tech calls. All students must register for their first work call on Canvas by August 30. Tech calls contributes to a grade that counts 20% of the students overall grade.

**4 Hours=100**

**3 Hours=90**

**2 Hours=80**

**1.5 Hours=70**

At each Tech Call, students clock in and out to document that they were on-time and attended the entire work call.

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS/FINALS**

MINOR GRADES-1<sup>st</sup> day late=30 point deduction; 10 points each additional day

MAJOR GRADES-May retake for 70

Student is responsible for scheduling make-up or retake assignments

The last day to turn in missing assignments is **Friday December 13, 2019**

**Midterm and final exam** each count 15% of nine weeks grade

### **CLASS FEE**

There is a \$25 class fee for supplies that will be taken up during the first two weeks of school. If you choose not to pay the class fee, a supply list will be given to you. These supplies are necessary for completion of the course.

### **RESOURCES**

The Stage and The School, Harry K. Schanker & Katherine Anne Ommanney

Play It Safe – safety video

Stage Lighting Revealed, Glen Cunningham

Designing and Painting for the Theatre, Lynn Pecktal

Stage Management Handbook, Daniel A. Ionazzi

Theatrical Design and Production, J. Michael Gillette

History of the Theatre, Glynne Wickham

Stage Makeup, Richard Corson

Costumes For The Stage, Shelia Jackson



## **THINGS PARENTS (and students)** **SHOULD KNOW ABOUT** **TECHNICAL** **THEATRE**

At Flower Mound High School, Tech Theatre is considered part of the Theatre Department. Technical theatre should be fun and educational, but also a lot of work. In addition to the work of design, tech theatre includes a large amount of tedious physical labor in bringing those designs to fruition. And there is always a clean-up! Technical theatre requires a student that is self-motivated and dependable, one who can stay “on task” without constant supervision.

### **Theatre Evaluation**

All theatre students are required to see and critique a live theatre production during the course of semester. Students enrolled in a tech class will be asked to evaluate the technical elements of the production for their validity, believability, unity, and conceptualization. Each student will be given a set of guidelines for writing the paper, which must be typed in order to receive credit. Papers must be turned in to the teacher within 2 weeks of seeing the play and must be accompanied by a ticket stub or program to receive credit.

### **Show dates**

***Paws (September 19-21); Stage Prents (October 17-19);  
Studio Prents (November 14-16)***

### **Work Calls**

All students MUST attend a total of 3 hours of work calls. There will be multiple opportunities to fulfill this requirement this semester. These work calls are vital to the growth and expansion of a top-notch theatre department, and are necessary to keep productions on schedule for a performance. Students are required to keep track of the time card in order to receive credit, or attend another work call if it is lost. **There is no alternate assignment for missing a work call.**

### **Class Fee**

There is a \$25 class fee for supplies that will be taken up during the first two weeks of school. This must be paid by check or exact change. If you choose not to pay the class fee, a supply list will be given to you. These supplies are necessary for completion of the course. Fees can be paid online or in check/exact change to their teacher. Online fees can be paid at:

<https://bit.ly/2KCjMPp>



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. Please keep this page for future reference.

Thank you,

John Patterson

Keli Wilson

Michael Valentine

Melody Barnhart

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[wilsonki@lisd.net](mailto:wilsonki@lisd.net)

[valentinem@lisd.net](mailto:valentinem@lisd.net)

[barnhartmr@lisd.net](mailto:barnhartmr@lisd.net)

I have read the description and expectations of the technical theatre class. I understand that, in addition to class, I will be required to attend a Saturday work call and write an evaluation of a live play.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I have read the description and expectation of the technical theatre class and support my son/daughter in his/her request to be a part of this class. I understand that I will support his/her attendance at Saturday work calls and writing an evaluation of a live play.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**I AM ATTACHING MY CHILD'S CLASS FEE**

**YES**

**NO**

**I PAID MY CHILD'S CLASS FEE ONLINE**

**YES**

**NO**

**THREE THINGS I WANT TO LEARN IN THEATRE THIS YEAR**

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**