



Welcome to  
Tilden Drama  
Stage Crew

# Tilden Drama Staff

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# What is Stage Crew?

The Stage Crew creates and manages all the technical elements of the production: lights, sound, sets, props, and costumes. Even though the Cast tells the story onstage, they will not be seen or heard or look pretty or have anything to work with without the Stage Crew.

# REHEARSALS

## Work Crew

- All students joining Crew are on the Work Crew
- Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 3:15-5:15
- Meets until the construction is finished

Depending on the number of students, the Work Crew may be divided into 2 or 3 teams. Each team will meet one day a week.

## Running Crew

- Chosen from members of the Work Crew
- Begins meeting in November
- Are called for most cast rehearsals
- Can go as late as 6:15pm, 7:15pm, or 8:45pm
- Large time commitment.

All Running Crew members must be available for all shows and all mandatory rehearsals from 11/1 through 11/30.

## House Crew

- Students not chose for Running Crew can join House Crew
- Not needed until Show Nights!
- Earn SSL Hours

# TRANSPORTATION

There is no Activity Bus. If you are not a walker/biker, you need to arrange for a ride home.  
Carpools are great!



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graph TD; A[WORK CREW] --> B[RUNNING CREW]; A --> C[HOUSE CREW];
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WORK CREW

RUNNING CREW

HOUSE CREW

# WORK CREW

Building Set Pieces

Painting Set Pieces

Creating Props

Cleaning and Sweeping

EVERYONE IS ON WORK CREW!!

# RUNNING CREW

Sound Board

Special Effects

Light Board

Props

Spot Lights

Costumes

Microphones

Stage Hands

About 25 people on Running Crew.

You must be on Work Crew to be chosen  
for Running Crew.



# HOUSE CREW

Earn SSL  
Hours!

Security

Program Duty

Concession Help

Ticket Help

Work  
1-2  
Shows

Anyone not chosen for Running Crew  
can sign up to be on House Crew.

# WORK CREW



## **Construction**

The Construction crew builds the sets needed for the performance. Depending on what the show requires, this could be walls, doorways, stairs, the deck of a ship, or even the entryway to a Chinese theater!



# SOUND TECHNICIANS



## **Sound Technicians**

Sound technicians operate the mixing board, speaker system, and the many microphones required to enable the audience to hear the performers.



2-5 Sound Technicians

# LIGHT TECHNICIANS



## **Light Technicians**

Light technicians set up and operate a lighting board to control the variety of lights to control the brightness, shadow, color tones, and mood of a performance.



2-3 Light Technicians



# SPOT LIGHTS



2-4 Spotlights

# MIC TECHNICIANS



3-4 Mic Techs

# SPECIAL EFFECTS



## **SFX**

**SFX, or special effects, are the added visual elements that add drama to a performance. SFX include smoke, fog, breakaway bottles, simulated shattering mirrors, and special mood lighting.**



2-4 SFX Techs

# PROPS



## Props

The Prop crew is responsible for keeping track of the many, many items that turn the stage into a “set.” Props can include tables, chairs, books, flowers, telephones, or lamps—anything needed to make the set feel more realistic.



2-3 Prop Techs



# COSTUMES



## Costumes

The Costume Crew turns middle school students into Victorian ladies or gentlemen, Parisian peasants or Catholic clergy, a Wicked Witch or a Kansas school-girl, a Beauty or a Beast, an Evil Octopus or a Little Mermaid!



2-3 Costumes

# STAGE HANDS



## **Stage Hands**

**Stagehands work backstage or behind the scenes during the show. They set up the scenery and props for the production--and quickly change it between the scenes of the show!**



2-4 Stage Hands

# HOUSE CREW



## **House Crew**

**The House Crew works during the performance taking tickets, passing out programs, helping concessions, providing security, and helping out with any other "front of house" tasks.**





# THE STAGE IS A DANGEROUS PLACE!

Always wear closed-toed shoes.  
Always wear clothes you can destroy.  
Always tie back long hair.



Our equipment is  
**VERY EXPENSIVE.**  
You break it,  
you buy it!!!

You must always  
**FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS**

If you cannot follow instructions implicitly, you will be asked to leave.

# MAGIC HAPPENS BACKSTAGE

SNL Cold Open

Columbo Set change

La Traviata

Magic Flute Quick Change

The King and I Quick Change

Goes Wrong Stage Manager



# WE AVOID OOPSIES





# WE HAVE FUN!



## HOW TO SURVIVE AS A STAGEHAND

1. Early is on time. On time is late. Late is unacceptable.
2. Clean up after yourself.
3. Safety third.
4. Your phone stays in your pocket.
5. Lift ON three.
6. What's said on the headset, stays on the headset.
7. If you're not sure, ASK.
8. Own your mistakes.
9. Keep your resume to yourself - unless asked.
10. Pull the tape first, then the cable.
11. If it has wheels, push it.
12. If it doesn't have wheels, put wheels on it.
13. Dress the part - simple black clothes, a belt, and appropriate footwear.
14. Don't steal the gaff tape of someone who can run faster than you.
15. Unless you're directed to, don't touch the power.
16. Never bug the talent.
17. If something falls, step aside. Don't try to catch it.
18. Load in for the out.
19. Asking to borrow something implies that you will actually return it.





# WE HAVE FUN!



Don't know how to coil  
cables over under?



**That's a paddlin'**

[www.stagehandinstitute.com](http://www.stagehandinstitute.com)

## **STAGEHAND 10 Commandments**

1. Love thy Gaff Tape & C-wrench, as thou love thyself.
2. Honor thy Stage Manager, for his will be done.
3. Thou shalt not get caught in the light, thou are but shadows.
4. Thou shalt not talk louder than a whisper at curtain call.
5. Thou shalt not covet another stagehand's cwrench, headset, torch, blacks, or SWAG.
6. Thou shalt not drop things from on high.
7. Thou shalt respect the caterer, for they are the keepers of treats.
8. Thou shalt not work dangerously.
9. Thou shalt not SUCK at what you do.
10. Thou shalt be as God-like as possible, fast, quiet, efficient & unstoppable with a roll of gaff.