

DRAMA • DANCE • VOCAL • MUSICAL THEATRE • TECH



COBB COUNTY CENTER  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE  
PERFORMING ARTS  
AT PEBBLEBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

Student/Parent  
Handbook







Greetings,

On behalf of the faculty and staff and the Pebblebrook High School community at large, I would like to welcome you to the CCCEPA family. The Cobb County Center for Excellence in the Performing Arts program was established to provide advanced and rigorous Fine Arts training for highly motivated students who possess the talent, demonstrate an interest, and model the character traits of what we would consider to be CCCEPA quality. Performing Arts students can receive training in the areas of vocal, drama, dance, and technical theatre while also being held to a rigorous academic standard in their core classes. The core academic instructional program at Pebblebrook High School provides a solid comprehensive high school education with options for magnet students to participate in AP and Honors classes as well as conservatory fine arts training, leaving them more than prepared for collegiate and or professional post-secondary options. As a CCCEPA student, you will have a host of options that will stimulate your academic and artistic development including studying with guest teaching artists, participating in master class workshops, cross-disciplinary student projects, and arts related business skills management. This handbook contains general information about the Cobb County Center for Excellence in the Performing Arts program, as well as some more detailed information about requirements for students and parents for each of our disciplines. It is imperative that parents and students review this handbook carefully and any departmental handbooks to assure your understanding of the expectations of CCCEPA and the disciplines you will study. We look forward to seeing you soar.

Robert John Connor, MFA

Director, Cobb County Center for Excellence in the Performing Arts  
at Pebblebrook High School



## ABOUT THE CCCEPA

The Cobb County Center for Excellence in the Performing Arts (CCCEPA) is a co-educational public magnet program, housed on the campus of Pebblebrook High School. CCCEPA offers unparalleled training in Dance, Vocal Musical Theatre, Drama, and Technical Theatre, complemented by a robust and innovative academic curriculum. The tuition-free program is open to students in grades 9-12 who meet eligibility and audition standards. Residency within the Cobb County School District is a requirement. District-wide bus transportation is provided for students admitted to the performing arts magnet program.

Magnet students are actively involved in co-curricular performances and are given the opportunity to work with top professionals in the arts from the Atlanta area and across the United States. Guided by master teachers, CCCEPA students grow as bold artists who graduate prepared to succeed in college and beyond. CCCEPA alumni have distinguished themselves in virtually every field of endeavor, including the arts and sciences as well as public service and other professions.

## PROGRAM COMMITMENT

The CCCEPA is a very rigorous program that requires a full commitment from its students. CCCEPA students are expected to make their academic and their CCCEPA program area responsibilities a priority. While CCCEPA students are encouraged to participate in social, community and extracurricular activities; priority must be given to required CCCEPA program activities (i.e. performances, rehearsals, workshops, field trips, etc.). Before a student commits to other extra-curricular activities (sports teams, cheerleading, drill team, clubs, outside performances, etc.), the student must consult/seek permission from their major area instructor. Failure to do so could jeopardize the student's standing in the CCCEPA Program.

## CCCEPA STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES

CCCEPA students may be responsible for paying yearly student activity fees at the beginning of the fall semester. These fees are used to offset additional cost for programs and activities in all CCCEPA departments including but not limited to uniforms, wardrobe, costumes, guest artist fees, field trips, set supplies, paint, lighting and sound equipment rental, workshops, supplies, transportation, food and refreshments, conference and competition fees and a multitude of other items not funded through the school district. These fees will accrue, and any unpaid CCCEPA activity fees will turn into fines and will interfere with a student participating in graduation activities. See individual areas for fee schedules.

## CCCEPA SEAL, CORD & STOLE

- ☆ CCCEPA students that complete a minimum of eight (8) fine arts credits will be awarded the CCCEPA stole.
- ☆ CCCEPA students that complete a minimum of eight (10) fine arts credits in the CCCEPA Program will be awarded a CCCEPA seal and CCCEPA stole.
- ☆ CCCEPA students that complete a minimum of 12 fine arts credits will be awarded a CCCEPA seal, a CCCEPA stole and a Fine Arts Medallion.
- ☆ CCCEPA students that complete 4 entire years in CCCEPA and earn a minimum of 12 fine arts credits will be awarded a CCCEPA seal, a Fine Arts Cord, a Fine Arts Medallion and a CCCEPA stole.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A CCCEPA student's standing/placement in the program is based on their commitment their program, academic achievement, disciplinary record, and area evaluations including but not limited to semester juries, performance requirements, production hour commitments and portfolio reviews.

## SEMESTER JURIES

Each CCCEPA department will conduct juries at the end of each semester to evaluate their student's commitment and progress. Semester juries consider demonstrated artistic growth, academic success, disciplinary reports, attendance, study habits, and their overall participation and attitude toward advancement. Based on this assessment, each student's status in the program and class placement will be determined. Given all positive indicators, a student is ranked as being in good standing until the next scheduled review. A student falling short of expectations is placed on probation. The semester jury evaluation can count up to 20% of the final semester grade.

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Once a CCCEPA student, you are required to maintain a minimum overall GPA of 2.50 to remain in the program and a 3.0 in their major area. If a student's overall GPA falls below a 2.50/3.0 respectively, they will be placed on probation. During this probationary period, we encourage the student to seek assistance via tutorial, study groups and outside tutors to improve their grades. If the student fails to improve their grades by the end of the academic term they will be subject to removal from the CCCEPA program and must return to their home school. CCCEPA student grades will be reviewed every 18 weeks.

## **TRANSFER STUDENTS**

Students can be accepted into the CCCEPA program from grades 9-11. Any fine arts credits that transfer students earn will be accepted and used towards a student earning a Fine Arts seal, however additional awards are based upon the amount of CCCEPA classes the student has taken. If a student transfers from a magnet school their credits will transfer as magnet credits.

## **REQUIRED PERFORMANCES/EVENTS/REHEARSALS**

Missing required rehearsals and/or performances will result in, at minimum, a significant grade deduction and can result in being placed on probation or dismissed from the CCCEPA. There will be clear communication to students and parents when probationary status is administered.

## **CCCEPA PROBATION**

A CCCEPA student can be placed on probation for any one or combination of the following reasons. All of which require a parent conference.

- ★ ARTISTIC - Any student who fails to maintain an overall academic average of 80 in their CCCEPA area classes will be placed on artistic probation.
- ★ ACADEMIC - Any student who fails to maintain an overall academic average of a 2.5 or above will be placed on academic probation.
- ★ CONDUCT - A student will be placed on probation for conduct unbecoming of a CCCEPA student. Any disciplinary infraction as defined by the Cobb County Schools J-Code of Student Conduct could warrant probation or dismissal from the CCCEPA program.

## **CCCEPA DISMISSAL**

When a Magnet student has not demonstrated the academic, behavioral and/or commitment recommendation outlined in their probation letter within the time frame allocated - or has committed an offense that is considered egregious; that student will be removed immediately from the CCCEPA Program and withdrawn from Pebblebrook High School should PHS not be their home school.

## **APEAL PROCEDURE**

Should the student and his/her parent wish to appeal the dismissal, a Petition for Appeal Letter must be submitted to the CCCEPA Director within one calendar week from the dismissal date. A conference will be scheduled after the petition for appeal letter has been received by the CCCEPA Director. Any student dismissed from the CCCEPA program and Pebblebrook is not their home school, they will be withdrawn from PHS and sent to the school in which they are zoned for immediately.



# VOCAL MUSIC

● CHAMBER

● RC III & IV

● VC I

● PHOENIX



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# VOCAL MUSIC

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CCCEPA Vocal program is a comprehensive curriculum that combines a broad musical skill base with the highest level of performance. It is our mission to cultivate a love for singing and the tools for self-expression. Our class periods are broken into two parts: rotations and rehearsal. In rotations, students study piano, music theory, music history, International Phonetic Alphabet, vocal technique, music literacy, and music production. Rehearsals culminate in one of our many performances throughout the year. One of our big annual events is GMEA All-State Choir, for which all students are required to audition. The program balances solo performance and choral music spanning most genres from classical to gospel, pop to musical theater, and world music to jazz.

## BASIC EXPECTATIONS OF VOCAL STUDENTS

- ★ On time arrival to classes, rehearsals, performances, and events.
- ★ Attendance at all mandatory curricular events and performances.
- ★ Food, drink, and chewing gum are prohibited in all rehearsal rooms and performance spaces.
- ★ ABSOLUTELY NO USE OF CELL PHONES IN CLASS OR REHEARSALS.
- ★ Exhibit proper performance posture always during rehearsals and performances.
- ★ Exhibit proper rehearsal etiquette during all rehearsals. Remain attentive and on task from warm-up to dismissal in every rehearsal.
- ★ Exhibit proper concert etiquette at all performances both on stage and in the audience.
- ★ Have all required materials at every rehearsal as outlined by the rehearsal director.
- ★ Maintain a positive attitude at all times during rehearsals. (A willingness to accept feedback will help a student develop faster.)
- ★ Students will dress appropriately for all concerts and shows.

## PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

- ★ Vocal Concentration
- ★ Repertory Chorus 3
- ★ Repertory Chorus 4
- ★ Chamber Choir
- ★ Chorale
- ★ Phoenix Ensemble
- ★ Gospel Choir Club (Extra-Curricular)



## MATRICULATION IN PROGRAM

Class/level placements are made at the discretion of the faculty of the vocal department with an emphasis on evaluating proficiency of skills. Class placement juries are held at the end of each school year to evaluate comprehension and retention. Failure to demonstrate skills required will prevent a student from advancing to the next performing ensemble. It is always our goal to place students in an environment that is best suited for their needs.

## REQUIRED DAILY MATERIALS

1. Music
2. Pencil
3. Music Folder
4. Notebook

## REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students earn points each day in rehearsal and performance etiquette. Examples of etiquette are being prepared for class (folder, pencil, assigned seat, punctuality etc...) and following class procedures. Reasons that students may have points deducted from their daily rehearsal etiquette grades might include (but are not limited to): Not having materials (music, binder, journal, pencil), not being in seat on time, chewing gum during rehearsal, eating any food, or drinking anything besides water. Each concert (including dress rehearsal) is worth 100 points in the performance category of your semester grade. The concert calendar is published and distributed to students in the summer prior to the beginning of the school year. Failure to perform in a dress rehearsal/concert or failure to present proper materials (folder, music, attire, etc) or to demonstrate proper concert etiquette will result in a grade deduction. Turning in robes, music, and folders at the conclusion of the concert is also a part of a student's concert etiquette grade. If a student does not participate in a dress rehearsal, that student may be pulled from the concert.

## ANNUAL EVENTS (PERFORMANCES, COMPETITIONS, ETC.)

The following is a list of typical performances for the chorus program during the school year:

Phoenix Retreat · Freshman Flex · Sight Reading Chorus Auditions  
Fall Concert · Middle School Run-Outs · All State Choir Auditions  
Holiday Caroling · Holiday Concert · County Honors Chorus  
Senior Soiree · All State Sight Reading Chorus · Black History Program  
All State Choir · Large Group Performance Evaluation · Spring Trip

*\*Additional performances may arise throughout the year to facilitate special requests, school events, or collaborations with other departments.*

## **PERFORMANCE ATTIRE**

Vocal activity fees will cover the cost for your basic formal concert attire. In addition, students are expected to have and wear concert black as required. Concert black consists of black dress slacks and a black dress shirt or blouse with sleeves. Footwear should be black, flat, closed-toe black shoes. No jewelry or hair accessories are permitted. A black tie is permitted, but not required. Students may be asked to wear designated outfits for special concerts and performance events. Care will be taken to avoid excessive expense to the student. In the event of a performance that does not require formal concert attire or basic black, attire must be tasteful, as it is a part of the performance and will affect grades. Specific details will be given in class.

## **AFTER SCHOOL & WEEKEND COMMITMENTS**

Performances and rehearsals before/after school and occasionally, on weekends are an integral part of a basic music education and are crucial to our success. You are expected to be present at said activities. In addition to the performance calendar published during the summer, students will always be given at least two weeks' notice before extra rehearsals/performance are scheduled so that arrangements can be made with families and employers. Absences from concerts will only be excused in the case of unavoidable conflicts (illness or death in the family). Prior commitments, family functions, college auditions and other performance engagements will not be considered valid excuses and will result in the forfeiture of points from that concert.

## **VOCAL JURY EVALUATIONS**

The "jury" is a comprehensive evaluation held at the end of each semester with performance and knowledge-based components. Juries often include sight reading, a solo or choral excerpt, and a reflection of material learned during the course. Juries act as part of the final semester grade and contribute to students' program standing and class placement for the following year.

## **PRIVATE LESSONS**

Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required. Private lessons offer students highly individualized instruction from a teacher who is specially trained on his/her instrument. There are many great resources for locating affordable private instruction. Consult your student's ensemble directors for specific details and requirements.

## **ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

We encourage students to seek out opportunities for music-making outside of the classroom if they are not in conflict with their CCCEPA commitments. These include youth performing ensembles, honors ensembles, community groups, collegiate ensembles, or even professional ensembles.





# DRAMA ACTING

● INTRO

● DRAMA 1-4

● SHAKESPEARE

● FILM & TV



# DRAMA

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CCCEPA Drama Department is an immersive training program that seeks to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue a career in acting – in plays and musicals, as well as film and television. Students are introduced to a wide range of high-level acting techniques and develop their use of the body and voice. Students also study scene work, monologues and auditioning, musical theatre, and improvisation. Guest artists are brought in to work with the students in special master class sessions. A full slate of extracurricular dramatic productions is presented in our performance spaces each season. At the core of our teaching philosophy, we believe it is our responsibility to equip those students who choose to pursue a career in the arts with the tools needed to succeed, and to instill in ALL students the work ethic, professionalism, communication skills and collaborative qualities needed to succeed in any field.

## CCCEPA DRAMA DEPARTMENT AGREEMENTS

As a department, we propose three categories that will be the foundation of our time together. We agree to respect each other, respect the space, and respect the work.

### WE RESPECT EACH OTHER

We will create a safe and supportive ensemble environment - the most successful acting classes are built on a culture of respect. We should feel safe to take risks and know that we are not being judged. We will respect other students' materials—especially dress out clothes and journals.

### WE RESPECT THE SPACE

Students will be asked to complete end of class responsibilities. We will make the space ready for the next class. There should be absolutely no cell phone use unless instructed to do so for class purposes. Students should have no food or drink other than water in the room. NO GUM OR CANDY. (With the exception of when these items are needed for scenes). We should raise our hands to talk after class has begun, especially if a teacher or another student is talking or if announcements are being made. Please be courteous to all members of the class and avoid talking when others are doing so.

### WE RESPECT THE WORK

We prepare our work to the best of our abilities. Scenes and monologues require memorization and preparation outside of class. Our talent cannot fully shine if we are not fully prepared to work. Once the bell has rung for class to start, that is the time to turn our attention to the work.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Class will consist of a daily warm-up which will focus on one, two, or all three of the following areas:

- ★ Focus/Concentration
- ★ Physical Warm-up
- ★ Ensemble Building

Exercises, Lectures, Demonstrations, Rehearsal, and Performances will be the main part of class. Students should remain completely focused for the entire class each day. Students who are not present in class or do not participate in class are not eligible to participate in after school rehearsals. We will focus on the work that is taking place in the classroom, black box, or theatre, and put aside assignments from other classes. We will be attentive during instruction, giving the same respect to others that we would also like to have.

## ADVANCEMENT IN THE PROGRAM

We offer five levels of drama classes: Introductory Drama, followed by Drama 1, 2, 3 and 4 – each offering different curriculum. All first-year drama students begin in “Intro,” regardless of prior experience. At the end of each school year, students are placed in a subsequent class by the drama faculty based on the needs and performance of each individual student. Some students may skip a level. In some instances, students may be asked to repeat a level. There is no single pathway of advancement through the drama program. Instead, we strive to provide students with the curriculum we feel will serve them best each year.

## JURIES

As part of the class placement process, all 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will complete a jury near the end of each semester. The jury for drama consists of a monologue performance and a brief interview. The jury is not the sole factor in class placement; however, it is an excellent opportunity for students to prepare and present a major audition, and to receive individualized feedback.

## GRADES

Class performances are graded using a rubric which evaluates acting, voice, movement, and preparation. In addition, all students receive a daily “rehearsal/ensemble” grade. The daily grade is awarded at a rate of 10 points per day and is entered into the grade book every two weeks (for 100 total points each two-week period). Students earn points in this category by effectively utilizing rehearsal time in class, completing daily exercises and by contributing to the work of other students. Any time a student is absent, their points for that day are deducted, but points may be recovered by submitting make-up work (please speak with your instructor for topics).

## CO-CURRICULAR PERFORMANCES

Each year, the drama department presents at least two full-scale play productions. All CCCEPA drama students are required to audition for a minimum of 1 drama production per year. If cast, you are required to fulfill that casting assignment. We strive to select challenging, relevant works of theatre that represent a broad range of cultures and life experiences. In addition, some advanced classes culminate in class performances presented outside of school hours.

## COLLEGE AUDITION PREPARATION

For those students who choose to continue training at the collegiate level, we pride ourselves in aiding with the process. We assist students with audition material selection, offer free coaching before and after school, and we also offer free prescreen video recording.

## MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS

We recommend that all students have the following:

- ★ A journal for keeping notes.
- ★ Comfortable dress-out clothes (school appropriate clothes in which you feel free to move).
- ★ Monologue and scene books are recommended, but not required.
- ★ A positive attitude and a willingness to learn.





# DANCE

● BALLET

● JAZZ

● MODERN

● AND MORE





# DANCE

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CCCEPA's Dance Department offers a full curriculum of dance styles including ballet, jazz, and modern for students of all levels of dancers. Courses in dance history, choreography, somatics, and kinesiology are part of the students' regular studies. An emphasis on classical technique allows students to develop the fundamental skills, vocabulary, strength, and flexibility needed to pursue all forms of dance. A particular importance is placed on wellness and injury prevention. Dancers perform in a dance concert twice a year at the close of each semester. Often other opportunities arise that allow dancers to participate in festivals such as the Kennesaw State University Dance Festival and the National/Regional High School Dance Festivals. Graduates of the dance program further pursue the study of dance at our nation's leading colleges, universities, and conservatories. They are performing with professional dance companies, on Broadway, and on cruise lines throughout the world as well as teaching at the university level and dance studios.

## OBJECTIVE

Because we provide highly specialized and intensive training for students, these experiences are designed to prepare students for the eventual study of dance in college, university, conservatory, or professional school as well as become dance teachers, choreographers, physical therapists, dance therapists, and in the field of dance and sports medicine. Additionally, classes are offered to students that would like to supplement their major area by learning dance that will facilitate their successes that are not focused on becoming a dancer or students may use dance as their Personal Fitness Requirement for graduation.

## KEY STANDARDS:

- ★ DHSD1.PR.1 - Identifies and demonstrates movement elements, skills, and terminology in dance.
- ★ DHSD1.PR.2 - Understands and models dance etiquette as a classroom participant, performer, and observer
- ★ DHSD1.PR.3 - Recognizes concepts of anatomy and kinesiology in movement.
- ★ DHSD1.CR.1 - Demonstrates an understanding of creative/choreographic principles, processes, and structures
- ★ DHSD1.CN.1 - Demonstrates and understands dance throughout history and in various cultures and historical periods.
- ★ DHSD1.CN.2 - Recognize connections between dance and wellness.
- ★ DHSD1.CN.3 Demonstrate an understanding of dance as it relates to other areas of knowledge.
- ★ DHSD1.RE.1 Demonstrate critical and creative thinking in all aspects of dance.

## STYLES OF DANCE

**Ballet:** provides students with a basic to advanced level of understanding of the fundamental principles of classical ballet technique. Strength, control, musicality, and flexibility will be developed while utilizing the universal standards of ballet. Ballet barre and center techniques with French vocabulary will be implemented. As the student progresses, they should be able to demonstrate a rhythmical understanding in the execution of the steps. Anatomy, Kinesiology, and Technology along with projects will be used to highlight the major historical events and personalities that have helped form the ballet of today's society.

**Jazz:** provides students with an understanding of jazz technique from basic to advanced levels through warm-up, center floor technique exercises, across the floor combinations, center floor combinations and choreography. Classes will focus on technical alignment, stylistic movement qualities/dynamics, percussive rhythmic phrasing, and musicality. The vocabulary used will be a combination of Ballet and Jazz terminology reflecting the hybrid style of the art form. Students will also learn about the history and choreographic approaches to dance through various dance styles.

**Modern:** provides an increased movement vocabulary including axial, center, and locomotor techniques. The vocabulary includes progressions, correct alignment, coordination, flexibility, strength, endurance rhythmic patterns, and energy contrasts.

## WARDROBE REQUIREMENT

### BALLET

- ★ FEMALES: One long sleeved, gathered front black leotard\*\*and one tank black leotard\*\* with CCCEPA logo, skin toned colored or pink tights (footed for ballet class), skin toned colored or pink ballet shoes (canvas or leather) with attached elastic, must match the tights, proper underwear is required, black and skin toned bra straps are allowed, no other colors
- ★ MALES: White dance shirt with CCCEPA logo, tucked in or secured tightly, black, long, and footed tights, belt or elastic suspenders required to hold tights up, dance belt is required, white ballet shoes with white socks or black ballet shoes\*\* with black socks\*\*

\*\* (Class and possibly concert)

## JAZZ:/MODERN

- ★ FEMALES: Black, low heeled, split sole, slip on jazz shoes, black leotard with CCCEPA logo, full black tights (convertible), black bike shorts with CCCEPA logo, Tan, 2-inch, character shoes may be needed, jazz pants required (Concert only), proper underwear is required, black and skin toned bra straps are allowed, no other colors
- ★ MALES: Black, split sole, slip on jazz shoes, black socks, black tee/tank shirt with CCCEPA logo, black bike shorts with CCCEPA logo, jazz pants required with CCCEPA logo (Concert only), dance belt required.

## DEPARTMENT EXPECTATIONS

**PERFORMANCES:** Performances are an important part in studying the performing arts. Students are required to participate in each of the two dance concerts. Grading will be based on actual execution of the performance skills, preparedness, and reliability in rehearsals and in the theater. If additional rehearsal time is needed, students will be given sufficient prior notice. The rehearsal week begins the Monday prior to the Friday and Saturday performances which are at 7:30 p.m., this includes the Saturday rehearsals on the day of the shows. There are required 3:30 p.m. warm up on Saturdays of the shows. Rehearsal week schedule typically runs from 4:30-7:30 but can change depending on the challenges in preparation for the shows. Times and days are subject to change until we have our own theatre construction completed.

**CLASSES:** Students must be in the dance studio when the last bell rings, NOT in the dressing rooms. He/she/they will be counted tardy if they are not in the dance studio when the last bell rings. Attendance, announcements, and academic work will be given and then the students will have FIVE minutes to change clothes. Per administration, ALL bags and personal belongings must be brought into the studios before class starts. At the end of class, students will have five minutes to change clothes for the next class. Students receive skills grades that are based on technical development, uniform/grooming, attendance/tardies and etiquette.

**FIFTH PERIOD:** 5th period is a required class. Dance major students will return to the studios for 5th period and be dressed out and ready to dance by 3:41 pm every day. All students remain in 5th block until 4:15 pm. Leaving before this time for any reason is considered early dismissal and must be handled through the attendance office as you would any other class. Be sure and communicate with your teacher prior to class if you are excused to leave early from class. No makeup of tests, athletic practices, club meet-

ings, doctor/dental appointments, detention, etc. are allowed without being checked out through attendance and/or prior approval from the teacher. Students who are not present in 5th period and do not have a note from attendance will be written up as skipping. It is the student's responsibility to make sure you are in class.

**POLICIES:** School policies including, but not limited to, behavior, tardies, checking in or out, absences and cheating will be enforced.

**CLASS PLACEMENT:** Students are individually placed in classes depending on their potential, training, work ethic, grades, conduct, progress, and preparedness for the next level. Each spring students will demonstrate their knowledge in a jury that will assist in determining the student's class placement. The jury is only a portion of the determining factor for placement.





# MUSICAL THEATRE

● BEGINNING

● INTERMEDIATE

● ADVANCED

● COMPANY



# MUSICAL THEATRE

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CCCEPA Musical Theatre Department is an immersive, comprehensive training program of instruction, performance and pedagogy that seeks to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue a career as a musical theatre performer. Students are introduced to a wide range of techniques to develop their use of the body and voice. Students also study music theatre history, musicianship, repertoire, and auditioning. Guest artists are brought in to work with the students in special master class sessions. At the core of our teaching philosophy, we believe it is our responsibility to equip those students who choose to pursue a career in the arts with the tools needed to succeed, and to instill in ALL students the work ethic, professionalism, communication skills and collaborative qualities needed to succeed in any field. Additionally, we strive as outcomes, that

The CCCEPA Musical Theatre Major will be proficient and knowledgeable about:

- ★ A strengthened vocal ability, music reading skills, dance techniques, and acting
- ★ An enlarged musical theatre repertoire
- ★ In the connection between text/musical analysis and performance
- ★ auditioning and performing techniques
- ★ A broad understanding of musical theatre history and tradition
- ★ A wide range of vocal styles required of musical theatre actor
- ★ To possess competency in musicianship, music theory and basic piano skills.
- ★ To be proficient in a range of dance techniques and genres.
- ★ To effectively gain the capacity to act scenes into songs with intention and clarity.
- ★ To present a gold standard in marketing oneself in a professional context, especially with headshot, website and resume formats.

## ADVANCEMENT IN THE PROGRAM

We offer six levels of classes in the Musical Theatre Track that offer a unique, yet cohesive curriculum:

- ★ Musical Theatre II
- ★ Musical Theatre III
- ★ Musical Theatre IV
- ★ Advanced Drama 2
- ★ Advanced Drama 3
- ★ Advanced Drama 4

## ADDITIONAL MUSICAL THEATRE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the six core musical theatre classes, musical theatre majors are required to complete a minimum of six additional credits in dance, vocal music or drama or a combination thereof to supplement their their musical theatre training.

## MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS

- ★ Pencils
- ★ Highlighters
- ★ One Binder to act as student's "Book"
- ★ Clear plastic Sheet Protectors
- ★ 5 Dividers
- ★ PostIt Arrow Flags
- ★ Recording Device
- ★ A positive attitude and a willingness to learn.

## WARDROBE

- ★ FEMALES: Black, low heeled, split sole, slip on jazz shoes, black leotard with CCCEPA logo, full black tights (convertible), black bike shorts with CCCEPA logo, black, 2-inch, character shoes, jazz pants required (Concert only), proper underwear is required, black and skin toned bra straps are allowed, no other colors
- ★ MALES: Black, split sole, slip on jazz shoes, black socks, black tee/tank shirt with CCCEPA logo, black bike shorts with CCCEPA logo, jazz pants required with CCCEPA logo (Concert only), dance belt required.
- ★ ALL: Tap shoes.

## REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE

Students earn points each day in rehearsal and performance etiquette. Examples of etiquette are being prepared for class (folder, pencil, assigned seat, punctuality etc...) and following class procedures. Reasons that students may have points deducted from their daily rehearsal etiquette grades might include (but are not limited to): Not having materials (music, portfolio/binder, journal, pencil), not being in seat on time, chewing gum during rehearsal, eating any food, or drinking anything besides water.

## CCCEPA MUSICAL THEATRE AGREEMENTS

### WE RESPECT EACH OTHER

We will create a safe and supportive ensemble environment - the most successful acting classes are built on a culture of respect. We should feel safe to take risks and know that we are not being judged. We will respect other students' materials—especially dress out clothes and journals.





## **WE RESPECT THE SPACE**

Students will be asked to complete end of class responsibilities. We will make the space ready for the next class. There should be absolutely no cell phone use unless instructed to do so for class purposes. Students should have no food or drink other than water in the room. **NO GUM OR CANDY.** (With the exception of when these items are needed for scenes). We should raise our hands to talk after class has begun, especially if a teacher or another student is talking or if announcements are being made. Please be courteous to all members of the class and avoid talking when others are doing so.

## **WE RESPECT THE WORK**

We prepare our work to the best of our abilities. Songs, monologues and song cycles require memorization and preparation outside of class. Our talent cannot fully shine if we are not fully prepared to work. Once the bell has rung for class to start, that is the time to turn our attention to the work. Please go to the restroom before coming to class or wait until 15 minutes into the class. Class will consist of a daily warm-up which will focus on one, two, or all three of the following areas:

- ★ Focus/Concentration
- ★ Physical Warm-up
- ★ Ensemble Building

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- ★ Exercises, Lectures, Master Class Demonstrations, Rehearsal, and Performances will be the main foundation of class.
- ★ Students should remain completely focused for the entire class each day.
- ★ Students who are not present in class or do not participate in class are not eligible to participate in after school rehearsals.
- ★ We will focus on the work that is taking place in the classroom, black box, or theatre, and put aside assignments from other classes.
- ★ We will be attentive during instruction, giving the same respect to others that we would also like to have.

## **GRADES**

Class performances are graded using a rubric which evaluates acting, voice, movement, and preparation. In addition, all students receive a daily “rehearsal/ensemble” grade. The daily grade is awarded at a rate of 10 points per day and is entered into the grade book every two weeks (for 100 total points each two-week period). Students earn points in this category by effectively utilizing rehearsal time in class, completing daily exercises and by contributing to the work of other students. Any time a student is absent, their points for that day are deducted, but points may be recovered by submitting make-up work (please speak with your instructor for topics).

## **JURY EVALUATIONS**

The Jury is a comprehensive evaluation with performance and knowledge-based components. All 10th, 11th and 12th graders will complete a jury near the end of each semester. Juries often include a prepared monologue, and presentation of a song excerpted from the musical theatre genre, and a brief interview. Juries act as part of the final semester grade and might not wholly contribute as part of the class placement process.

## **AFTER SCHOOL & WEEKEND COMMITMENTS**

Performances and rehearsals before/after school and occasionally, on weekends are an integral part of a basic music education and are crucial to our success. You are expected to be present at said activities. In addition to the performance calendar published during the summer, students will always be given at least two weeks' notice before extra rehearsals/performance are scheduled so that arrangements can be made with families and employers. Absences from presentations/performances will only be excused in the case of unavoidable conflicts (illness or death in the family). Prior commitments, family functions, and other performance engagements will not be considered valid excuses and might result in the forfeiture of points from that presentation/performance.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR PERFORMANCES**

Each year, the CCCEPA Performing Arts Department presents at least two full-scale musical productions. All Pebblebrook High School students are eligible to audition. We strive to select challenging, relevant works of theatre that represent a broad range of cultures and life experiences. In addition, some advanced classes culminate in class performances presented outside of school hours.

## **COLLEGE PREPARATION**

For those students who choose to continue training at the collegiate level, we pride ourselves in aiding with the process. We assist students with audition material selection, offer free coaching before and after school, and we also offer free prescreen video recording.

## **PRIVATE LESSONS**

Private lessons are encouraged but not required. Private lessons offer students highly individualized instruction from a teacher who is specially trained on his/her instrument. There are many great resources for locating affordable private instruction. Consult your student's teachers for specific details and requirements.

## **ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

We encourage students to seek out opportunities for music-making outside of the classroom if they are not in conflict with their Magnet commitments.



# TECHNICAL THEATRE

● PROPS

● SOUND

● LIGHTING

● SCENIC DESIGN



## TECHNICAL THEATRE

CCCEPA's Technical Theatre Department is a professional training program that provides students with the skills and techniques necessary to pursue a career in the live entertainment design and production industry. The areas of study include lighting design, sound design, technical direction, set design/construction, costume design, wig & makeup design, stage properties, and stage management. Concepts and aesthetics are taught using contemporary teaching methods that utilize state-of-the-art equipment. Professionally produced events in our 750 seat New Mainstage Theatre, Reece Theatre, and the Wilson Studio Theatre, our students with practical hands-on work experiences. Technical theatre students graduate with a complete portfolio and the training to pursue a design and production degree at our nation's elite college and university programs. Students who complete our program will also be prepared to enter the industry after graduation as professional technicians. CCCEPA technical theatre graduates work with professional theaters, opera companies, and cruise lines worldwide.

Technical Theatre students will learn to produce live entertainment using real-world technology and applications. Each student will be well-grounded in the fundamentals of lighting, sound, stagecraft, and costumes. They will also be able to apply the elements of design and principles of composition to the design process of any production. Lastly, they will learn how to identify and pursue career opportunities within the industry.

Most importantly, technical theatre students are expected to make quality design choices, create professional productions, and a safe environment. Ultimately, students will prioritize safety to themselves, others, and the equipment and tools provided.



## TECH CLASS LEVELS

There are three levels of technical theatre:

- ★ **Beginning Technical Theatre** – This level is designed for all students who have never taken technical theatre before. In Beginning Technical Theatre, you will learn the parts of a stage and types of theatres, theatre equipment, tools, materials, and basic stagecraft techniques. This level will also teach the fundamentals of lighting and sound equipment and the design process.
- ★ **Intermediate Technical Theatre** – This level is for all students who complete Beginning Technical Theatre and wish to expand on that knowledge and deepen their technical theatre experience. At this level, students will take the fundamental production knowledge they mastered in beginning technical theatre and start using it practically. Intermediate Technical Theatre is a hands-on project-based course. Students will be creating scenery, lighting systems, sound systems, and other elements necessary for each production. In addition to their production work, students will learn the fundamentals of scenic, lighting, sound, and costume design.
- ★ **Advanced Technical Theatre** – This level is for Technical Theatre Majors who have an expressed interest in a career in technical production or a desire to continue their studies at a technical school, junior college, or four-year institution. Advanced Technical Theatre allows students to take the lead on productions and expand their experiences in producing shows. Students in this class will have production design opportunities and take on more leadership roles and responsibilities within each production.

## TECHNICAL THEATRE PORTFOLIOS

Every year, Technical Theatre students must create a Technical Theatre Portfolio. Portfolios are a way to showcase a student's growth and work visually. Portfolios allow students to show their design and production work and market themselves for universities or jobs. They will also be used to evaluate their progress within the program during their semester juries.

Portfolios will be created in either PowerPoint or Keynote. Each portfolio will begin with a title slide. For every year of technical theatre a student has completed, they should have a minimum of four pages represented.

It is recommended that students document their work throughout the year to show the processes they used to create and produce their work. They should have a dedicated place to digitally keep photographs of their work and other artifacts (Thumb drive, cloud service, external storage, etc.).

## TECHNICAL THEATRE JURY

Each semester, every technical theatre student will complete a technical theatre jury. During their jury, students and faculty will review their portfolio work and discuss their progress within the program. This will also be an opportunity for each student to receive a formal evaluation of their work in technical theatre. Students will receive a jury score which will be a composite of their classwork, production work, portfolio, overall commitment to the program, and work ethic. Juries are an evaluative tool to judge every student's placement and progress within the technical theatre program.

## PERSONAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Safety is the number one priority for everything we do in technical theatre. It extends to crews, casts, and audience members. It requires awareness, common sense, and perseverance to eliminate hazards, avoid risks, and guard against carelessness.

All Technical Theatre students and staff will protect themselves, others, and the gear and equipment.

- ★ Personal Protection – Every student will be required to supply the following pieces of personal protection equipment (PPE):
- ★ Eye Protection – Goggles, face shields, or safety glasses—all ANSI rated for impact will be worn while working around the shop or stage when in the vicinity of anyone painting, spraying, sanding, cutting, drilling, chiseling, hammering, nailing, or stapling. Safety glasses should have side guards to deflect incoming projectiles from the side. Welding masks and shields will be used around welding operations. (The instructor will provide welding masks and shields) Eye Protection will be required any time tools are being operated, whether you are operating or not.
- ★ Hearing Protection will be required while tools are being operated in the scene shop or on stage. All hearing protection must be non-electronic. (Earbuds, noise-canceling headphones, or any other type of electronic ear devices (unless medically prescribed) are not permitted. All hearing protection must have a noise reduction rating (NRR) of at least 25dB. Acceptable types of hearing protection can be either disposable earplugs or over-ear ear muffs.

- ★ Work Gloves are sometimes necessary when handling construction materials or hot items like lighting instruments. Gloves should not be worn while operating saws, drills, or other equipment that could capture the glove's fabric and draw the worker into the machine. Gloves should be "Mechanic" style, meaning they are tight to the fingers.
- ★ Shoes – closed-toe shoes or boots are required when working on the stage, scene shop, or other production areas. Sandals, Crocs, flip-flops, Uggs, slippers, or slides are NEVER allowed in technical theatre classes.
- ★ Work Clothes – Loose-fitting clothing, scarves, ties, or jewelry should not be worn while using power tools or stage equipment. Long-sleeved shirts should be buttoned at the cuffs or rolled to the upper arm. It is recommended that students wear jeans or pants with pockets and belts to hold tools or tie off wrenches. There will be times when students will be asked to paint scenery, clean oil off of steel, or operate tools that create sawdust. All students must be dressed in a way that doesn't prohibit those activities. It is recommended that students have "shop clothes" available in those instances.
- ★ Backstage Blacks – During shows, all backstage personnel will be required to wear all black backstage. All clothing items should be black and have minimal white or light-colored writing or logos.

**Protection for others** – It is imperative that all students are aware of their surroundings at all times. While it is incumbent on each student to protect themselves, we are all responsible for ensuring that the people around us are also safe. All students should stay focused and free of distractions.

**Protection for the equipment and facilities** – CCCEPA production support spaces and performance venues are equipped with millions of dollars worth of highly specialized equipment. Everyone should adhere to the following practices:

- ★ No one may use any equipment, tools, or hardware without being properly trained.
- ★ No students may enter any unauthorized areas without permission from the production staff.
- ★ All tools, equipment, and gear must be returned to their proper locations when they are done being used. In most cases, this should be done at the end of each work call. In some instances, equipment may be left out if it is still used by a specific production.
- ★ No one may operate any power tools without direct supervision from the technical director.
- ★ No one may use ladders or lifts without direct supervision from the technical director.

- ★ No one may enter any area above the stage floor (Grids, catwalks, etc.) or the orchestra pit without permission from the technical director.
- ★ Report all broken or malfunctioning tools and equipment to the technical director immediately. Do not return them to their storage area until the issues are resolved.

## REQUIRED TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

All technical theatre students require the following items for the 2022-2023 school year:

Beginning Technical Theatre:

1. Safety Goggles that wrap around the sides of the eyes. see “Personal Protection” for details.)
2. Hearing protection: Earmuffs are preferred, foam plugs are acceptable (see “Personal Protection” for details.)
3. Mechanic or nitrile gloves that are tight to the fingers and hand. see “Personal Protection” for details.)
4. Two .9mm Mechanical pencils.
5. One small, pocket-size notepad for work notes. (You will not use this for class notes.)
6. Two black, standard, “Sharpie” style permanent markers.
7. One three-ring binder with five divider tabs for class notes and documents. (This must be devoted to technical theatre and no other class!)
8. 1 USB Flash Drive, 16GB or better. This will hold all of your class files. (Portfolio, Audience Critique, Lighting, Sound work, etc.)

Intermediate and Advanced Tech ONLY:

In addition to the above list, you will be required to have the following:

9. 8” adjustable wrench with tie line attached and properly tied.
10. 25’ tape measure in excellent working condition. Make sure it has repeating inches for every foot. Be certain it doesn’t have 1/10” or decimal markings, only 1/16” markings!
11. Five pack of #2 Robertson bits. Please make sure they are quick-release style to be used in the impact drivers. (Don’t get the shorties.
12. Architect’s tri-scale ruler. DO NOT get the mechanic or engineer scale rulers!



EXIT



## DRESS CODE (CLASS AND CREW)

- ★ Shoes – closed-toe shoes or boots are required when working on the stage, scene shop, or other production areas. Sandals, Crocs, flip-flops, Uggs, slippers, or slides are NEVER allowed in technical theatre classes.
- ★ Work Clothes – Loose-fitting clothing, scarves, ties, or jewelry should not be worn while using power tools or stage equipment. Long-sleeved shirts should be buttoned at the cuffs or rolled to the upper arm. It is recommended that students wear jeans or pants with pockets and belts to hold tools or tie off wrenches. There will be times when students will be asked to paint scenery, clean oil off of steel, or operate tools that create sawdust. All students must be dressed in a way that doesn't prohibit those activities. It is recommended that students have "shop clothes" available in those instances.
- ★ Backstage Blacks – During shows, all backstage personnel will be required to wear all black backstage. All clothing items should be black and have minimal white or light-colored writing or logos.

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Technical Theatre is an academic class. For the vast majority, this will be your first time learning about entertainment design and production skills and theories. Everything you learn in technical theatre is cumulative, meaning you must retain the information you learn as a beginning technical theatre student for your entire time in technical theatre. Everything we know is built on prior skills and ideas. In addition to retaining information, all technical theatre students are expected to be active participants in all CCCEPA productions in a meaningful way. Our work is most successful when we all operate as a cohesive unit. Likewise, your active participation is how you will gain the practical skills needed to progress and advance throughout the program. If you don't like to get involved, technical theatre is not for you.

All technical theatre students will be expected to:

- ★ Follow all safety procedures.
- ★ Remain focused and alert at all times.
- ★ Protect themselves, others, and the equipment.
- ★ Actively participate in all production work.
- ★ Apply for crew positions.
- ★ Ask questions, seek clarification, and solicit help.
- ★ Support the arts by attending performances when not on crew.
- ★ Dress appropriately for the work.
- ★ Maintain all required personal protection equipment and tools.
- ★ Respect each other.
- ★ Respect the work.

## CREW POSITIONS

To deepen your learning and fulfill your commitment as a technical theatre student, every student is expected to participate in at least one production each school year. This will require you to apply for crew for plays, musicals, dance concerts, vocal concerts, class presentations, community events, and other events outside the regular school day. All students are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities.

For primary productions (Plays and Musicals), crew applications will be released digitally between 2-4 weeks prior. Every technical theatre will be required to apply for one primary production each semester. Crew assignments for primary productions are not guaranteed.

For secondary productions (Concerts, community events, class presentations), each student will be required to sign up for at least one. Advanced technical theatre students will be required to sign up for two secondary productions. These crew assignments will be graded production work.

## OUTSIDE VOLUNTEER OR PAID WORK

Because of the rigor, quality training, and experience technical theatre students receive, it is not uncommon for outside groups to inquire about student volunteers or crew workers. CCCEPA Technical Theatre operates under a “Learn or Earn” philosophy. In no way should any technical theatre student perform free labor for “exposure,” “experience,” or “community service hours.” These are unreasonable outcomes that exploit students and do not look after their best interests. Students should only accept these opportunities if they offer an educational or financial benefit in return. Student volunteers should expect a high-quality mentorship from an industry professional. As volunteers, you should not be expected to work more than 8-hour days or perform labor as a substitute for a paid employee. Similarly, this work should be free of any risks or unusual requests outside of the learning experience.

Internships should also fall under those principles and expect reasonable compensation for work performed. A per-diem, honorarium, or stipend should be expected in return for intern work. Interns should also expect high-quality training that advances their experiences within a professional setting. Volunteer or paid opportunities are not guaranteed to any student, nor will they be offered to any specific individuals, should they arise. CCCEPA Technical Theatre students are obligated to CCCEPA productions first and foremost. Outside opportunities should not take place at the expense of the magnet program. Students who receive CCCEPA training are expected to CCCEPA productions over external options.



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