



## Technical Theatre Class

Instructor: Mrs. Tabitha Peck

Classroom: The Leon Performing Arts Theatre

Email: [peckt2@leonschools.net](mailto:peckt2@leonschools.net)

Telephone: 850-617-5700 x1060

website: [www.leonperformingarts.org](http://www.leonperformingarts.org) click on "Theatre Tech"

Dear Student and Parent:

I would like to take this time to welcome you to the 2023-2024 Technical Theatre class. I am excited about this year, and look forward to working with each of you. As you read over this syllabus with your student; please make note of any questions that you have concerning this information. I hope that when you have completed studying the syllabus, you will have a strong understanding of what will be required from the student, as well as what the student can expect from me. I want to personally invite each parent to take an active role in helping the student, and myself, have a productive and successful experience in class this year. The last page of the syllabus is the individual student contract, which must be returned to me, signed by both the parent, and student. This gives me a written confirmation that both the parent and student have read the syllabus, understand procedures, rules, consequences, and will abide by them. Please read each page of the syllabus carefully before signing the contract. This contract will be kept in the student's personal information file. Once again let me welcome you to the class, it is going to be an exciting year!

Syllabus

**Objective:**

Students focus on developing the basic tools and procedures for creating elements of technical theatre as listed below. Technical knowledge of safety procedures and demonstrated safe operation of theatre equipment are central to success in this course. Students will be required to attend or participate in technical work, rehearsals, and/or performances beyond the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Course Description:**

Technical Theatre is a daily hands-on learning style class that will introduce the first year technician to the areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. **You will climb ladders, lift things, build (hammers, screwdrivers, not saws), hang things, paint, work online, research, work with makeup, and handle very expensive sound and lighting equipment in this class.** The theatre elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to:

Stage elements	Stage properties (props)	Crews/ Assignments
Theatre appreciation	Costumes/Makeup	Sound Engineering/Recording
Lighting Installation and Design	Fly System/Safety	Box Office/Ticket Sales
Stage Management	Scene Design	Publicity

**Rules:**

- Be Safe
- Be Prepared
- Be Polite and Forward-thinking
- Be Tidy

**Grades:**

You can access your grades anytime to see where you stand. Grades are based on:

- Homework/Classwork/Participation/Projects – 30%
- Tests/Quizzes/Proficiencies – 30%
- Gigs – 40%

\*\*\*a “Proficiency” is an individual “hands-on” evaluation of a task. The student demonstrates that they can competently and independently (without prompts) perform a technical task (e.g., setting up a microphone, turning on the stage lights via the computer, etc). These are not “pop-quizzes”. The student will know well in advance when they will be tested on a subject, but they are pass/fail.

**Requirements:**

- Daily Class Participation (Classwork can be hands-on OR written)
- After School Gigs and Theatre Events (you will sign up for these, the number depends on how many gigs there are in any given 9-weeks... you will be told on the first day of each term how many “gigs” you are required to work that 9-weeks.
- “LPAT Tech” shirt. Will purchase from Mrs. Peck for \$5. Do not alter this shirt in any way (cut, paint, etc).
- A Pair of Black Pants to be worn with the LPAT Tech shirt (can be black jeans!)
- Closed-Toed shoes (mentioned above) are needed for class every day.

### **Classroom Procedure:**

- Our class will meet in the theatre unless you are otherwise informed (usually via a text Remind message). Be in the theatre, sitting in the front and center when the tardy bell rings.
- You must have a pair of closed-toe shoes available **at all times!** You may keep these at Leon in the light cage room if you'd like. Ladies – it is not wise to wear skirts on days we are doing “hands on stage” kind of stuff.
- All equipment and personnel are to be treated with respect. Negative and indifferent attitudes will not be allowed to touch ANYTHING in the theatre!!!

### **“Gig” Procedure:**

1. Arrive 45 minutes-1 hour before “showtime”, **wearing your Shirt & Badge**. Message Mrs. Peck that you have arrived.
2. Introduce yourself to the person for whom you are working, ask if there are any pressing needs.
3. Finalize setup for the event, test lights and sound.
4. Be helpful and courteous during the event.
5. Cleanup after the event...put EVERYTHING away!!! Finally, check out with supervisor.

### **Discipline Procedure (we won't have this issue, I'm sure of it!):**

See the contract (next page) that you and your parents will sign. A copy of all of this is on [www.leonperformingarts.org](http://www.leonperformingarts.org)

### **How to do Well in Theatre Tech class:**

- Attend class and be willing to get involved. If you attend class but are habitually ill-prepared to participate in the discussions or are lethargic and lazy towards your work, it will adversely affect your grade. This class is all about being a team and being a family. If you are missing (whether physically or mentally) our team cannot function properly. The work you are learning requires a very high amount of skill.
- Do well on the proficiency tests and attend the gigs you sign up for. If you are having trouble, please talk with me. Theatre is a discipline that holds promptness as a virtue. Don't be late! Realize that someone else's hard work (aka the group performing on stage) depends on YOU. If you neglect to show up for a gig...someone else (or a group of people who have worked very hard for their performance) pays the consequences.
- Show off. It's not enough that the light goes on in your brain; you have to demonstrate your knowledge, skills, and ideas. Demand perfection from yourself and don't settle for less. Leon prides itself on our productions and our technical elements. You are now a vital part of this family.

### **Fees:**

No class fee... just buy your \$5 shirt!

Remember our motto:

**“Tech is best when we are NOT noticed!”**

KEEP THIS PAGE. RETURN CONTRACT ONLY.

## TECHNICAL THEATRE CONTRACT/WAIVER

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Because of the safety risks involved and the absolute trust I will need to put in him/her, I need you and your student to read the following contract carefully, sign it and return it. Your child's safety is my NUMBER ONE concern. At NO TIME will your student be placed in danger. You are free to come and see for yourself the area in which your student will be working. Please contact me at any time at [Peckt2@leonschools.net](mailto:Peckt2@leonschools.net)

1. **Horseplay** is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Any behavior that jeopardizes the safety or well-being of other students will immediately result in a disciplinary referral and banishment from all theatre tech activities. Our goal is a productive and safe space for all.
2. **Theft or intentional damage of school property** or other student's property will not be tolerated. Parents are responsible for paying the reasonable replacement value of such items (including equipment.)
3. Absolutely **no food, drinks, candy or gum** is allowed in the Theatre. This serves as your warning. A violation will result in detention the first time, a referral for the second time.
4. Students will be given a variety of tasks UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION once they've proven proficiency in these tasks. These are: **climbing the ladder(s), pulling ropes, hanging lights/curtains/set pieces on a batten, going in the catwalk, setting up the orchestra shell, setting up stage risers, working with sound and light equipment, and loading/unloading counterweights.** This is the bulk of the curriculum for this class...by signing below, you are ALLOWING your student to participate in Theatre Tech class.
5. It is **imperative** that students show up to work the events for which they sign up. Someone ELSE'S hard work depends on it. Concerts and performances require lights and sound that ONLY our student techs know how to run. Without us, someone else's hard work could be ruined. We sign up for our gigs WEEKS in advance – these must remain a priority. Students who neglect their gig (forget, have last minute conflicts, have to work, etc) **are not guaranteed an opportunity for makeup. This includes our PAWS Concert, which will be December 7th,8th, and 9th, 2023. This is a mandatory gig for all technicians.**

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE SYLLABUS AND 5 ITEMS ABOVE. I KNOW THAT I WILL BECOME PART OF A TEAM OF HIGHLY SKILLED INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE SAFETY, INTEGRITY, AND QUALITY OF THE LEON PERFORMING ARTS THEATRE. I UNDERSTAND THAT VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE RULES WILL RESULT IN A DISCIPLINE REFERRAL AND/OR BEING REMOVED FROM THIS CLASS.**

Student Printed Name (neatly!) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_