

## Production Design Audition Requirements

### OUR PROGRAM

*Developing artists and artisans, the Production Design department focuses on the conceptual, technical, and artistic elements of design working collaboratively to tell a compelling story.*

Students in this department are introduced to a range of skills including but not limited to: sketching, set design and construction, costuming, lighting and stage management, audio and video production, storytelling, creative collaboration, and producing. Students should be prepared for some after-school hours throughout the year to work on builds.

A collaborative energy and team spirit are essential to succeed in this department!

### HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR AUDITION

**Design Project:** Prior to the audition, find a fairy tale or well-known traditional story, and reimagine it as a play for an audience. Choose one of the following to complete and bring with you into your audition:

- Draw or paint the set as you imagine it
- Make a model of how you imagine the set
- Create a concept board or sketches of how you imagine the costumes on the main characters

**Portfolio:** Prepare a binder or folder for the auditioning panel to keep and review with the following included:

- A headshot or school photograph of yourself
- A few short sentences that describe you as a designer (ex. Your style, favorite skills, inspirations and influences, etc.)
- Examples of your past work including but not limited to: prompt books, craft or design projects, artwork or sewing examples

**Written Response:** On the day of your audition, you will be given a 20 minute writing prompt to complete. This prompt will relate to theatrical design concepts in a broad way, and is a chance for you to show your imaginative impulses. Any creative, prospective student should feel confident responding to it spontaneously.

**Interview:** Be prepared to discuss your experience and interest in the following areas:

- Costumes
- Set design, construction & painting
- Lighting
- Audio and video production
- Stage Management

Be ready to articulate your design choices and construction from the *design project* you bring with you. You may be asked questions about why you are eager to train in this field of study. We welcome you to share any other applicable skills you have relating to this major (ex. sewing, painting, musical engineering, working backstage, crafting, etc.).

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### **\*Tips for a great interview:**

- Be on time
- Dress professionally
- Be confident!
- Take a moment to collect your thoughts before answering a difficult question
- Make eye contact with your interviewers
- Practice answers ahead of time at home
  - *How will you describe your design project?*
  - *What more can you tell us about the work in your portfolio?*
- Show us your personality
- Have a couple questions in mind to ask your interviewers

*Any questions regarding general audition policies may be directed to Ann-Marie Squerrini, Director of Admissions at [asquerrini@charterarts.org](mailto:asquerrini@charterarts.org).*

*Any questions regarding the pre-audition design project or portfolio may be directed to Rae Labadie, Artistic Director of Production Design at [rlabadie@charterarts.org](mailto:rlabadie@charterarts.org).*