C. Administration

1. Skill in the range of managerial functions required in the technical operations of a theatre, including studio and personnel scheduling, and management, fiscal management (budget development, materials acquisition, record keeping), stage and studio maintenance, and equipment acquisitions.
2. Skill in oral and written communication essential to the execution of scenery and to the smooth operation of the technical aspects of the theatre.
3. Ability to work and collaborate with various artists, technologists and technicians, many or all of whom may be relatively unskilled students, under pressure.
4. Capability in the higher levels of planning required in seasonal or repertory contexts.

Additional information about the expertise and skills expected of the technical director may be available through the ATHE Design and Technology Focus Group, the Stage Manager’s Association, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT).

THEATRE EDUCATOR / YOUTH THEATRE SPECIALIST

Theatre educators are arts-in-education specialists who are responsible for preparing students to attain licenses or certification and/or expertise to teach drama in primary and secondary schools. As such, the theatre arts educator is responsible for having a broad knowledge of theatre practice, and specific expertise and credentials in training future drama teachers who must be able to teach theatre performance and production, promote social development, self-expression, creativity and teamwork in their students, as well as direct and produce student theatre.

Specialists in youth theatre are artists/teachers with expertise in children’s theatre – they may be actors, directors, designers, and puppeteers. They may also be administrators of educational programs and activities that involve children and young adults in creating and experiencing theatre.

Although theatre educators and youth theatre specialists vary greatly in their depth of knowledge and ability in any one area, the range of proficiency typically required includes:

A. Production Expertise

1. Knowledge of basic production technique in design and technical areas.
2. Skilled in stage direction for working with adult and child actors.
3. Basic proficiency in performance of theatre for children such as acting, improvisation and theatre games, mime, or puppetry.
4. Skills in performing and teaching creative drama.
5. Ability to effectively communicate with theatre practitioners, members of the scholarly community, and the general public

B. Literature and History
   1. Knowledge and understanding of theatre history and theory.
   2. Knowledge and appreciation of the functions that theatre performs in today’s culture and in previous eras.
   3. Knowledge of dramatic literature, including historic and contemporary genres, especially the literature of children’s theatre.
   4. Knowledge of repertories, methodologies, production, education and activities as they inform theatre for children and young adults.
   5. Extensive knowledge of national and state arts curriculum standards in the area of theatre.
   6. Information literacy (the ability to research and vet information from appropriate sources).

C. Administration
   1. Highly skilled in written and oral comprehension and communication.
   2. Excellence in critical thinking and complex problem solving.
   3. Ability to train students in the national content standards of storymaking and script writing, acting, designing, directing, researching theatre, connecting theatre to other media and arts, and understanding how theatre relates to history and culture.
   5. An understanding of professional ethics and practices associated with arts-in-education and theatre.

Overall excellence from the theatre educator or youth theatre specialist requires the ability to integrate knowledge consistently in the areas noted above. Such expertise is demonstrated by participation in realized production, both on and off campus.

Additional information about the expertise and skills in these specialty areas may be available from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE), the Community Theatre Association, the Educational Theatre Association, American Education Association, International Drama Education Association, International Thespian Society, and Theatre for Young Audiences/USA.

THEATRE HISTORIAN / THEORIST

The theatre historian and theatre theorist are scholars who research, present, and publish studies of theatre performance, production, dramatic literature, theatre theory, philosophy and performance studies. Theatre historians organize and evaluate data from primary and secondary sources to trace past events within social, political, geographic, ethnic and performative contexts. They also analyze and interpret classical and contemporary playscripts in those contexts. Theatre historians may also be involved in translating plays...