

Theatre Program Information

Salem High School

SHS Performing Arts: Open to All

The Performing Arts Department at Salem High School welcomes students at every level of skill, experience, and interest.

We have recently expanded our course offerings to include classes in technical theatre, musical theatre, foundations of drama, and acting and playstudy. Our after school drama club produces an annual winter musical, competes in the METG One Act Play Festival, and takes field trips to see local professional productions. In the spring, students have the opportunity to perform monologues at local arts festivals or share musical theater performances in end of semester showcases.



2024-2025 Season

Winter Musical: Chicago (teen edition)

METG One Act Play

Spring: Small Cast Musical *TBA soon...*

Purchase Tickets at:

<https://shsonstage.ludus.com/>

- Approximately 230 students in the 9th grade CTE Exploratory are introduced to Technical Theatre through hands on-projects in a two week rotation.
- Between 45-50 students participate in the after school drama club, as performers and technicians. Students also participate in club outings to see professional theatrical productions.



Current Course Offerings - Technical Theatre

CTE Exploratory (3 Quarters): 9th graders move through 2 week rotations, representing 13 different Career and Technical Fields, including a Technical Theatre rotation in which they learn about and complete several hands-on projects related to Costumes, Props, Set, Lights, and Sound. (Other rotations include Automotive, Carpentry, Electrical, Programming/Web Development, and Graphic Design)

[Link to our CTE 2 Week Exploratory Curriculum](#)

CTE Technical Theatre (1 Quarter): For those that select Tech Theater following the exploratory program. Design a set, costumes, and props for a 10 minute play to be performed by acting students. (With the addition of this equipment, design lights and sound as well.)

Technical Theatre (1 semester): Go in depth into props, costumes, set, sound, and lights. Create technical elements for the after school musical (and additional productions with the equipment from this grant).

Fashion (and Costume) Design (1 Semester): Learn the basics of fashion/costume design. Learn how to sew by hand and on a machine.

Current Course Offerings - Performance

Foundations of Drama (1 Semester): Drama games! Short scene projects! Monologues! Participation in an end of semester showcase.

Pre-AP Theatre: Acting and Play Study (1 Semester): Read, watch, and discuss plays. Perform scenes or design technical elements for the plays we study. Refine a scene for an end of semester showcase.

Foundations of Musical Theatre (1 Semester): Learn techniques for acting through song. Learn about the history of musical theatre. Practice and perform songs and scenes from musical theatre in preparation for an end of semester showcase.

Global Dance (1 Semester): Learn the basics of a variety of dances from merengue, bachata, salsa, to ballet, jazz, and modern dance. Choreograph, rehearse, and refine performances for an end of semester showcase.

An Experiment at METG Festival Awards

Preliminary Round

- Ella Jackson - Technical Excellence in Scenic Design
- Lizzy Mahady - Technical Excellence in Lighting Design
- Raymond Nguyen - Technical Excellence in Sound Design and Stage Management
- Emi Whitfield - Excellence in Acting Award for the role of Dr Soles
- Olivia Davis, Frances Jones, Jess Lemus, Kaitlin Modaff and Lee Santiago - Excellence in Acting Award for Ensemble Acting
- ALL CAST AND CREW - METG Festival 2024 Preliminary Round Winner for the production of An Experiment

Semi-Final Round

- Kaitlin Modaff - Excellence in Acting Award for the role of Devious
- Lizzy Mahady - Technical Excellence Award for Lighting Design
- Bella Beals, Lizzy Mahady, Raymond Nguyen, and Cameron St. Germain - Technical Excellence Award for Stage Management/Sound and Lights Operation



“The sound and light cues were deftly executed to precision by the crew. The technical elements really supported the production and the choices made by the lighting and sound designers were perfectly suited to the story. This made for a unified event.” ~ METG 2024 Preliminary Round Adjudicator Comment

Student Testimonials

“Working on set crew, and now as this year’s Student Technical Director, has given me opportunities to apply my skills as a third year carpentry student in artistic ways that also support my interests as a musician in jazz ensemble and marching band.” ~ Daniel (3rd year CTE Carpentry Student, 2024-2025 Student Technical Director)

“Designing the lights for the METG one-act was an amazing experience that allowed my designs and skills to be recognized by people I felt truly appreciated it.” ~ Lizzy (3rd year CTE Graphic Design Student, Lighting Designer)