

March 27

Theatrical Problem Solving – The Director

In the creation of a unified and complete production, the director is the point person for all things onstage and off. The director's vision drives the technical departments and gives guidance to character portrayals. The director creates the staging and chooses the actors for specific roles. The attitude and outlook of the director will influence and impact all personnel working on the show. Because they are dealing with so many different aspects of the production, the director is constantly called on to problem-solve in a creative manner.

You are the director of a production. How will you use creative thinking, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication to solve each problem?

Write out your solutions to the following director problems.

1. Three students did not get the parts they wanted and are threatening to drop out. How would you solve this problem?
2. An actor who gave a great audition is not working out. They are not prepared for rehearsals, are not working on their character, and do not seem to be trying. How would you solve this problem?
3. The costume designer has brought costume designs that are in direct opposition to your vision. How would you solve this problem?
4. There has been some conflict between your ensemble and your lead actors. It is starting to affect the morale of the production. How would you solve this problem?
5. Before opening night, the light board crashes and there isn't a backup. How will the audience be able to see the performance? There is no lighting designer, so the answer falls to you. How would you solve this problem?