Quick Facts for Teachers

Does this sound familiar?
A high school hired 7 coaches for 10 track team students while the Drama teacher singularly served 40 theatre students as the head coach (director), producer coach, the TD coach, set coach, lighting coach, projections coach, sound coach, costume coach, stage-fight coach, and house management coach.

FACT

Americans spend more per year on entertainment than they do on professional sports.

YET...

Americans spend more per year on sports education than they do on entertainment arts education.

“Ironically, the folks who are quick to cut funding for school arts programs are often in favor of increased funding for sports...”

George Heymont, Huffington Post, The Blog

“More Funding for School Arts Programs, Less for Sports”
Does this sound like your situation?

Drama teachers want to hire professional technicians and artists to work with their students, but schools won't fund this vocational CTE education. Technicians and artists want to work with and mentor technical theatre students, but they can't make a living wage working at high schools.

FACT

Schools rarely provide students with training from industry professionals, and many go as far as banning students from using the tools-of-the-trade in their facilities as well. Either way students don’t get the education they want!

“There are nearly 26,000 K-12 school-based theatre arts programs throughout the United States”

MTD Marketing 2014
Do you want your students to receive technical education they need?

What if there was a sponsorship program with paid technicians/artists that will provide a vocational technical theatre education to your students, with no cost to your school?

FACT  S-T-A-G-E has the program!
How the program works.

The S•T•A•G•E sponsorship program provides professional artists and technicians to educate high school technical theatre students.

The sponsor is matched to one or more school theatre productions (or the sponsor may select a production based on location, specialty or other beneficial interests) at a specific high school that has a specific technician/artist they work with but aren’t provided the funds to pay a living wage.

Professional technicians/artists mentor technical theatre students in their role as Set Designers, Lighting Designers, Costume Designers, Projections Designers, Stage Managers, Make-up Artists, Sound Engineers, TDs, Guest Directors, Stage Fight Coaches, Stage Parkour Coaches, and other related professions.

The high school recognizes and promotes the sponsor; boosting the company’s customer base, promoting company exposure and good will, reinforcing brand image, and providing an opportunity to promote products and services.
FAQs

Will the Guild find technicians/artists for my school production?
You must have technicians/artists with whom you already have a working relationship at the time of application. S•T•A•G•E is not an employment agency and cannot find technicians and artists for you.

How much do technicians and artists get paid?
Those who are working the full production process – 8 to 10 weeks – (e.g.: set designer, costume designer, stage manager TD, etc.), will be compensated $8000 per production.

Those who work primarily during tech weeks only – 1 to 4 weeks – (e.g.: lighting designer, sound engineer, make-up artist, etc.), will be compensated $3000 per production.

How do technicians and artists get paid?
After your show strikes, S•T•A•G•E sends a check to your technician/artist directly – your school and/or district does not need to get involved with any financial transactions. We will provide your technician/artist with a W-9 to complete, and then send them a 1099 form at tax time.

What if I have more than one technician/artist that I work with that I would like to be sponsored?
Submit one application form for each technician/designer for each show. We cannot guarantee that we can help everyone, and we like to divide the generosity of our sponsors between schools, but we will do our best. If you submit more than one application we suggest that you indicate your priority.

Who are the sponsors?
They are primarily companies that provide supplies and services to the entertainment industry, and individuals who respect supporting technical theatre in high schools.
What do sponsors want in return?
Sponsors value giving to their community and being known as good corporate citizens by supporting a cause that tells their clients and customers they support the performing arts in our schools. They gain positive media opportunities to grow their customer base, and reach their future target market – today’s high school students are their next generation of customers, users, and advocates. Our sponsor members enjoy showcasing innovative products and systems, thus increasing brand loyalty and attracting future employees.

What are some ways to recognize and thank our sponsors?
There are many ways to show your appreciation to a sponsor for their support of technical theatre arts training in our schools.

Below is a list of examples:

- Complimentary tickets your shows
- Tours and meet & greets with vocational stage crew students
- An opportunity to provide product demos to students
- Sponsor logo placement in play program
- Sponsor logo on your play poster
- Sponsor name/logo on play t-shirt
- Sponsor acknowledgement on your website
- Sponsor acknowledgement on your Facebook page
- An opportunity to provide merchandise (giveaways)
- Other – please be as innovative and generous as you can

How do we communicate and collaborate with our sponsor?
Each School-Sponsor team will be assigned a Sponsor Rep who will facilitate communications and collaborations.

“This is an incredible! Thank you for tackling such a huge problem in high school theatre, and helping artists and technicians get paid for the valuable work they do.”

- S•T•A•G•E Member School, New York
For more information or to become a school member please contact:

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