Pershing Middle School

6th Grade Magnet Technical Theatre
Audition Requirements

The Technical Theatre Magnet audition is designed to assess a student's **creativity, problem-solving skills, collaboration mindset, and interest in behind-the-scenes theatre work**. No prior technical experience is required—students are evaluated on **effort, imagination, and potential**.

For your audition, you will be required to complete the following components:

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1. Prepared Technical Design Project

Students will complete **one technical design task**, chosen from the options below. Instructions and prompts will be provided in advance.

Students will bring their completed work to the audition and briefly explain it.

Design Options (choose ONE):

- **Set Design**
    - Create a drawing or model of a stage set from your favorite short story or book.
    - May include labels, notes, or color choices.
    - Materials may be simple (paper, cardboard, pencils, markers, etc.).

OR

- **Costume Design**
    - Create a costume design for a character from the provided prompt.
    - Includes a sketch and short written notes about color, fabric, or character inspiration.

What we are looking for:

- Creative thinking
- Attention to detail
- Clear ideas
- Willingness to explain choices (not artistic perfection)

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2. On-the-Spot Technical Challenge

Students will complete a **short, timed technical task** during the audition with minimal preparation.

Examples may include:

- Interpreting a short scene and **choosing lighting or sound effects**
- Arranging provided images or materials to show how a scene could look onstage
- Identifying tools or materials and explaining how they might be used in theatre

What we are looking for:

- Problem-solving skills
- Ability to follow instructions
- Creative choices under time constraints
- Flexibility and focus

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3. Interview

Students will participate in a brief interview with the audition panel. Possible topics include:

- Why they are interested in technical theatre
- What excites them about working backstage
- How they handle teamwork and responsibility
- Willingness to learn new skills and try unfamiliar tasks

What we are looking for:

- Curiosity and enthusiasm
- Commitment to the program
- Respect for collaboration
- Growth mindset

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4. Written Assessment

Students will complete a short written response during the audition. Sample prompts may include:

- Describe any experience you've had creating, building, drawing, or designing.
- What job would you like to try backstage and why?
- Why do you want to be part of the Technical Theatre Magnet?
- What skills do you hope to learn this year?

What we are looking for:

- Thoughtful reflection
- Clear communication
- Interest in theatre or creative work
- Effort over experience

Final Notes for Families & Students

- **No prior theatre or technical experience is required, but a theatrical and technical "mindset" is expected.**
- Neatness, effort, and creativity matter more than "talent"
- Students should come ready to **think, explain, and collaborate**
- This audition values **potential, responsibility, and imagination**

Audition Scoring Breakdown

- **Prepared Technical Design Project: 50%**
- **On-the-Spot Technical Challenge: 30%**
- **Interview: 10%**
- **Written Assessment: 10%**