

COSTUME DESIGNER

The Costume Designer is accountable to the Director and works within the terms of the costume budget. Others on the costume team work under the supervision of the Designer.

- The Costume Designer is needed for all productions. For many plays, this person needs knowledge of fashion, history of fashion, understanding of the purpose of a theatrical costume and how it relates to the play. It is an asset to have sufficient drawing skill to communicate design ideas to the Director.
- The Costume Designer reports to the Director and should communicate well to ensure that the costumes are consistent with his/her concept of the show. Costume designing is a big job involving a lot of work, and the costume designer should attempt to get as much help as possible.
- For some shows the costumer designer may primarily select costumes from the theatre's stock or locate others that can be borrowed or rented from other theatre groups. In some cases the costume designer may have to literally design some of the costumes to be worn on stage and should organize a team to sew them.
- The costume designer will include the following: Cast size and costume numbers, historical and period of costumes, budget including rentals and cleaning, deadlines, costume parade, measurements, design detailed costume plot, showtime – performers and wardrobe's responsibilities.
- Read and understand the play. Make notes of specific costume changes.
- Plan on how many costumes will be needed. Measure the actors.
- Make actors aware: no eating or drinking while in costume. No costumes to be taken home. They are to report if any costumes need repair work or laundering.
- After the shows, everything must be put back where it belongs.
- At the end of the production, all costumes must be taken to the drycleaners or home to be laundered and then returned immediately to the costume room.