



**STEPHEN  
JOSEPH  
THEATRE**  
SCARBOROUGH

# Theatre Jobs

## KS3 & KS4 Activities

**Below you will find some information on a variety of theatre professions and related activities.**

### **A Costume Designer**

A Costume Designer is the person responsible for designing the costumes for a production, making sure they match the time period, style and director's vision for the piece, as well as being practical for the performer.

#### **What are the main responsibilities of a Costume Designer?**

- Reading the full script, marking and making notes on areas that will affect costume
- Research the time period and setting of the play
- Researching fashion in certain time periods and places
- Design the costume for each character
- Liaise with the director on the overall vision of the play

#### **What qualifications do I need to be a Costume Designer?**

While you do not need a degree for this role, here are some useful subjects and courses that could help you get a head start in the industry:

- Costume Design
- Fine Art
- Art and Design
- Fashion
- Dressmaking
- Textiles

## **Challenge**

**KS3 Objective** learn how to work with others to solve human and practical problems

Look at a script you know or a play you have seen. Look at it from the perspective of a costume designer. Choose a character and design a costume. Include all relevant information in your design such as colours and fabrics used.

## **A Set Designer**

A Set Designer creates the look of a set for a theatre production. Their role is a combination of creativity and practicality as they must create not only the design but also make it come to life alongside a team.

### **What are the main responsibilities of a Set Designer?**

- Read through the script and work with the director to create a concept for the production. A concept includes your rough ideas of what you think it should look like
- Communicating your ideas to costume, make-up, props and lighting departments
- Have a creative vision and able to create sets from small scale to large scale
- Building and photographing scale models
- Arrange your team and give them all individual tasks to ensure you and your team are all working together to create a great set
- Have a knowledge of set materials which can be used to create certain aspects of the set
- Working out problems like lighting and scene changes
- Researching historical, contemporary, futuristic details to get the right look for the production
- Creating effective designs within the available budget
- Sketching design ideas to produce a storyboard

### **What qualifications do I need to be a Set Designer?**

A majority of Set Designers training will take place on the job. You can also gain a position as a Set Designer through a university course, college course, apprenticeship or working towards the role. If you would like to study to become a Set Designer you can study for a qualification in one of the following areas and this can make you a desirable candidate.

You can gain a qualification in any of the following subjects:

- Design
- Fine art
- Interior design
- 3D design
- Lighting
- Theatre design

## **Challenges**

**KS3 Objective** learn how to work with others to solve human and practical problems

### **Challenge 1**

Choose a text that you know well or a piece of theatre that you have seen but would like to redesign. Create a concept design.

### **Challenge 2**

Produce a storyboard of the “play”. Include as much detail as possible.

## **A Lighting Designer**

A Lighting Designer will work with the Director, Artistic Director and/or Lighting Technicians to create the visuals for lighting, lasers, strobes, spots and sometimes video screens for a performance.

### **What are the main responsibilities of a Lighting Designer?**

- Work with the creative team to come up with ideas
- Design the lighting needed for the performance
- Be aware of health and safety aspects
- Write a lighting plot/script to note where there are any lighting changes
- Attend technical rehearsals
- Be aware of budgets and energy use

## **Challenge**

**KS3 Objective** learn how to work with others to solve human and practical problems

Choose a play that you know well or have seen. Pick a scene. Design a lighting sequence to enhance the action.

## **A Musical Director**

A Musical Director also known as a Conductor leads a cast, orchestra, choir and other musical groups during a performance.

They select musical arrangements and compositions to be performed and study musical scores to prepare for rehearsals.

### **What are the main responsibilities of a Musical Director?**

- Attend creative team meetings with the Director and Choreographer to develop the overall vision of the show
- Study the script and music
- Participate in auditions, evaluate the vocal abilities of all auditionees and offer suggestions on which individual might be best suited to each role based on vocal performance
- Teach music to the cast and musicians
- Attend rehearsals
- Lead regular warm-ups with the cast and musicians before shows
- Normally serves as the conductor during live performances, directing the orchestra

### **Challenge 1**

Create a warm-up activity for singers. Write a song or tongue-twisting rhyme that uses the muscles in the face and opens the throat.

### **Challenge 2**

Choose a play that you know or have seen or a piece of film and decide where music would be needed. Select suitable music for that scene /performance.

### **Challenge 3**

Choose a play that you know or have seen or a piece of film and decide where music would be needed. Compose a suitable piece of music for that scene/performance.

## **An Actor Musician**

An Actor Musician is a Performer who combines performance with playing a musical instrument.

### **What are the main responsibilities of an Actor Musician?**

The responsibilities of an Actor Musician are very similar to that of a performer:

- Engage in public performances
- Attend rehearsals for an upcoming performance
- Create a positive experience for audiences
- Work well in a team - you may need to collaborate with other Artists

The only difference between an Actor and an Actor Musician is that they will be more involved in the music of the production, making the piece of theatre come together both in performance and musically.

### **What qualifications do I need to be an Actor Musician?**

This role would be ideal for someone who wants to take acting and singing further and have a love for performing and musicianship.

Alternatively if you are skilled in one or the other it is a great opportunity to learn an additional skill that can open up further opportunities.

- Actor Musician course
- Singing
- Performance
- Musical theatre
- Drama

### **Challenge - Actor**

**KS3 Objective** -be aware of the need for dramatic conventions (e.g. light, dark, movement, pause, sound, silence)

Learn a piece of script/monologue. Decide how you are going to present this piece. Mark it up for changes in tone/expression/movement. Can you do it in more ways than one?

Perform for your friends & family!

## General activities

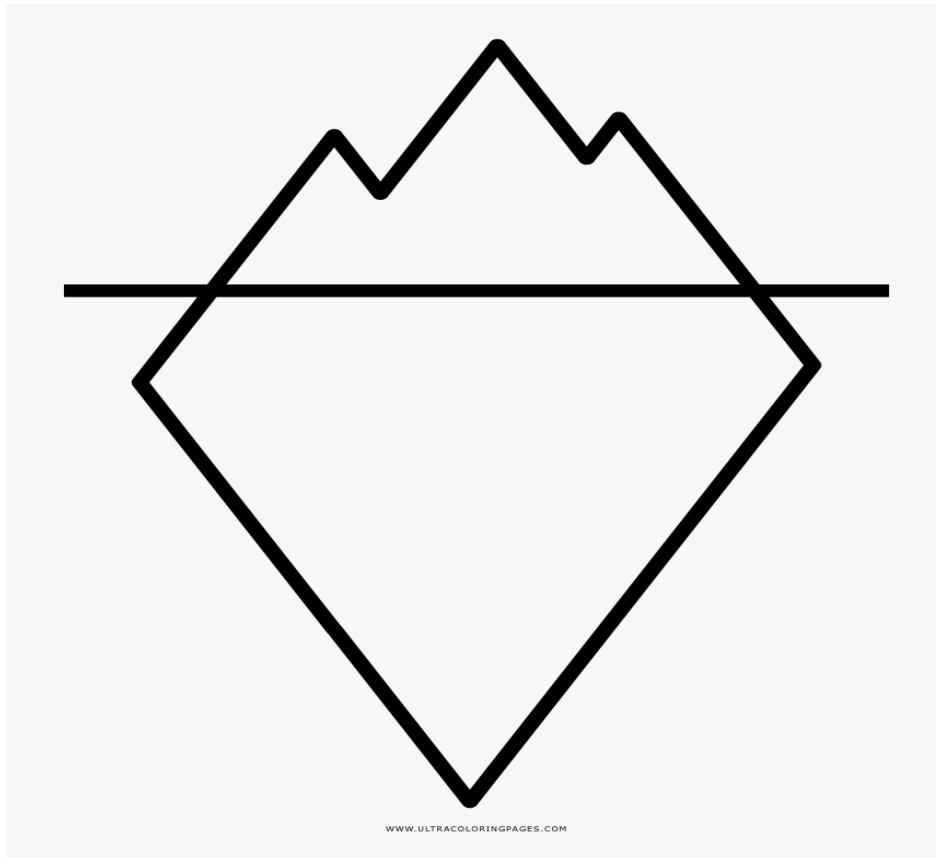
KS3 objective - develop a vocabulary of theatre/ drama

1. Make a list of words associated with the theatre building and the professions found within.

### KS3 Responding to theatre

1. Write a review of a play that you have seen or a blog or a post for social media.

2. Draw an iceberg similar to the one below. Choose a character from a play that you have seen or know well. At the top write quotes by character and under the line record how the character is feeling/ thinking.



3. Choose a character. Make a list of questions that you ask that character if you were interviewing them. You could do it in character yourself e.g. a policeman interviewing Macbeth. Act out with a partner.

For further information on theatre careers look at <https://getintothetheatre.org/>