

OOHS Orangelight Productions Theatre Handbook 2019-20

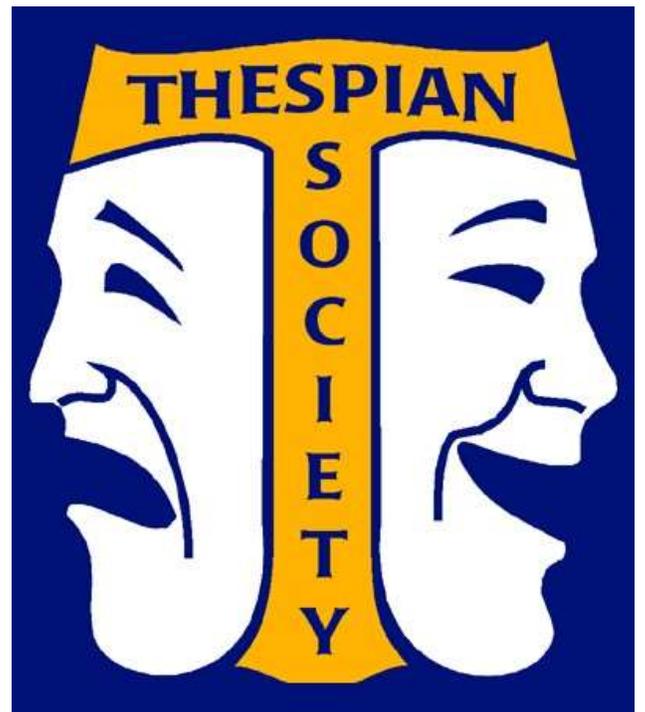


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ABOUT OOHS ORANGELIGHT PRODUCTIONS

Directors and Production Staff

Ms. Cathy Swain-Abrams, Director, 740-657-5187, cathy_swain-abrams@olentangy.k12.oh.us

Mrs. Meredith Braniger, Fall Assistant Director, Winter/Spring Musical Vocal Director

Mrs. Tracy El-Masri, Choreographer and Movement Director

Mr. Scott Edgar, Lighting and Sound Designer

Mr. Greg Rogers, Shop Manager/Set Designer

Mrs. Melissa Grimes, Pit Orchestra Director

History of Olentangy Orange High School Theatre

Why “Orangelight Productions”?

It is a tradition in many high school theatres to give a moniker to the drama group. The first graduating class of OOHS had a strong theatre program originating from their founding years at OHS. In 2010, the ITS officers of that class voted to name our organization Orangelight Productions to play on the theatrical term “limelight,” and in honor of our school name.

Past Productions

<u>18-19</u>	<u>Productions</u>	<u>Director</u>
	Sense and Sensibility	Swain-Abrams
	Little Shop of Horrors	Swain-Abrams, Performance Class
	Student-directed One Act Plays	Swain-Abrams, students
	Seussical	Swain-Abrams
	The Brother’s Grimm Spectaculathon (One-Act)	Swain-Abrams, Performance Class
<u>17-18</u>	<u>Productions</u>	<u>Director</u>
	Extreme Theatre – 24 Hour Theatre Project	Students
	The Good Times Are Killing Me	Swain-Abrams
	Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind	Swain-Abrams, Performance Class
	Disney’s High School Musical, Jr. (middle schools)	Swain-Abrams, Reza, Whiteside
	Heathers The Musical, School Edition	Swain-Abrams

<u>16-17</u>	<u>Productions</u>	<u>Director</u>
	The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940	Swain-Abrams
	The 25 th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee	Swain-Abrams, students
	Student-directed One Act Plays	Students
	Mary Poppins	Swain-Abrams
	Extreme Theatre – 24 Hour Theatre Project	Students
<u>15-16</u>	<u>Productions</u>	<u>Director</u>
	Much Ado About Nothing	Swain-Abrams
	Disney’s The Lion King, Jr. (middle schools)	Swain-Abrams, Reza, Whiteside
	Les Miserables, School Edition	Swain-Abrams
<u>14-15</u>	<u>Productions</u>	<u>Director</u>
	The Crucible	Swain-Abrams
	Student-directed One Act Plays (SOAP)	Students
	Fiddler on the Roof	Swain-Abrams
	Extreme Theatre – 24 Hour Theatre Project	Students
<u>13-14</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Director</u>
	Arabian Nights	Swain-Abrams
	Disney’s Peter Pan Jr. (with middle schools)	Swain-Abrams, Reza, Whiteside
	Urinetown, the Musical	Swain-Abrams
	Extreme Theatre – 24 Hour Theatre Project	Students
<u>12-13</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Director</u>
	The Awesome ‘80s Prom	Swain-Abrams
	Student-directed One Act Plays (SOAP)	Students
	Disney’s Beauty and the Beast	Swain-Abrams
<u>11-12</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Director</u>
	A Midsummer Night’s Dream	Swain-Abrams

	Senior-directed One Act Plays (SOAP)	Students
	Singin' in the Rain	Swain-Abrams
<u>10-11</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Director</u>
	To Kill a Mockingbird	Swain-Abrams
	The Wizard of Oz	Swain-Abrams
<u>09-10</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Director</u>
	Count Dracula	Swain-Abrams
	Senior-Directed One Act Plays (SOAP)	Students
	The Sound of Music	Swain-Abrams
<u>08-09</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Director</u>
	Footloose	Manarolla
	Terror by Gaslight	Student Directed, Erin Holt
	Arsenic and Old Lace	Manarolla

Production Season

How are shows chosen?

Every year careful consideration is given to what shows will be produced. Providing varied experiences over the theatre student's four-year high school career in both performance and tech is a goal of the Orangelight theatre. In addition, the available talent must be considered, since vocal ranges, number of male and female actors available, skill level and experience of the tech crew are all taken into consideration.

How are shows cast?

An experienced panel of judges, including members of the production team, OOHS teachers and staff, and former OOHS theatre students are assembled for each audition. After the initial closed audition, callbacks are conducted. Casting is done based on each audition, with consideration of the talent of the student for the available part and the best placement of the student for the entire ensemble. Seniority is not a ticket to a part. Freshmen through seniors have the same opportunities to earn parts based on auditions. Competition is tough and auditions should always be taken seriously and be well prepared for the best possible personal outcomes.

What production opportunities are available each year?

Fall Play- announced and auditioned at the end of the school year with a few early rehearsals in May/June. Posting of the Cast as well as some Crew Leads list can be found within a day or two of auditions at the school and online (Schoology Group: Orangelight Productions-OOHS theatre). Crew sign-ups are in the fall.

Winter Play-

ODD YEARS: Student-directed One Act Plays (SOAPs); Active Junior and Senior members of the International Thespian Society and students who have taken Directing class have the opportunity to direct one act plays 10-30 minutes in length.

EVEN YEARS: Mentor opportunity for high school students, by working with OOMS and OBMS middle school students on a musical.

Spring Musical-announced every year at the fall homecoming pep rally. Auditions are usually held in December, with production in early to mid-April.

State Thespian Conference- The conference is being held at Dublin Scioto High School, Dublin, Ohio on March 27-29, 2019. Orangelight Productions sometimes requests a screening of the fall play to travel for performance at the State Thespian Conference. We have travelled with several productions to conference including *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Arabian Nights*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Good Times Are Killing Me*. All experiences were valuable for the students involved. Additional opportunities for the State Thespian Conference are outlined later in this handbook.

Extreme Theatre- Open to active members of the International Thespian Society, Extreme Theatre is a 24 hour creative theatre experience where students write and direct a production from scratch for performance, complete with sets, costumes, hair and make-up, props, sound, and lighting. This event takes place from a Friday evening at 7pm to Saturday at 7pm at which time we perform the new plays for our audience.

PRODUCTION BASICS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Before you get involved...

A theatrical production is an amazing experience. Whether on stage or behind the scenes, confidence is built in the theatre. Students can learn at their own pace while building knowledge of theatrical arts. Since theatre is a collaborative art, teamwork is essential to a successful production. Regularly, students are challenged to solve problems and make decisions. We have a wonderful space and professional equipment that the students are taught to use with care and respect by experienced adult professionals. As if all of these benefits were not enough, theatre is fun and a terrific way to make friends while building a foundation for a future career or lifelong interest and appreciation of the performing arts.

To have a quality production, theatre is also a huge commitment. Not only is there a significant time commitment, but like any team, each member of the group depends on the other being there when they are supposed to be, to make it function properly. Students have often expressed that their time management is significantly improved during play season because they learn to be efficient with their time.

Actors

Auditioning for a part is a commitment. When you and your parents sign and turn in your audition form, you are committing to accepting the role that you earn. Quitting that role is not only unprofessional, but it creates strain on the ensemble and the schedule. Please take the commitment of an audition seriously. When you audition, you are saying that you will trust and accept the director's decision to place you where you will best fit within the ensemble of the production. Initial disappointment and sadness is very normal if you do not get a part that you really wanted. Of course, the director(s) have an open door if you would like to discuss the audition process and what you might need to work on to obtain the type of role you want for future productions.

Tech

Technical theatre allows for many different talents to be showcased. It too is a commitment, though there is flexibility in many crews to have less of a time commitment, making it ideal for people with other commitments. Most shows have room for many people to be involved in tech. Some positions require training and demonstration of learning before the tech position is filled. If many people are interested in the same positions, you may not get your first or second choice of positions. Interviews are held for student tech lead positions prior to or during audition week.

Tech Positions: Technical theatre positions teach skills that easily transfer into the real world, Along with problem solving and critical thinking, students can learn to operate equipment and tools used in many trades. Design positions are available for qualified students. Lead positions are for experienced students and are obtained through an interview process.

Student Director: attends all rehearsals, assists the director in rehearsals with blocking and characterization, often doing scene work with smaller groups of actors, acts as prompter during rehearsals

Stage Manager: attends all rehearsals and takes attendance and collects forms, keeps record of blocking for scenes and cues for all tech, runs shows during the production from the booth.

Assistant Stage Manager: assists the stage manager in all duties and serves backstage left on headset during productions

Set Lead: attends set builds and leads build projects, paints, organizes backstage area for tech week and leads crew in set changes

- Set Build Crew: assists lead in set build, paints
- Set Running Crew: runs set changes during shows

Costume Lead: Creates costume plot, measures actors, pulls and shops for costumes, works within a budget, alters existing clothing, creates costumes from patterns, coordinates quick changes, assigns jobs to crew members and supervises progress

- Costume Crew: assists costume lead in all costume duties

Lighting Lead: Assists tech director in light hang and focus and programming of board. Runs board during productions

- Lighting Crew: help with lighting hang, may assist in running light board
- Spot Operators: operate spotlights during productions

Sound Lead and Assistant: creates a mic plot; finds, gets approval, and mixes sound effects; sets up mics and monitors on stage and off stage as needed; runs the board during the show

- Sound Crew: mics the actors; puts all mic equipment away; changes mics backstage during shows

Now that you are part of the show....

Students

Rehearsal Expectations:

Rehearsals are integral to making the production a success. Students are responsible for following the rehearsal calendar (on Google Calendars on the Schoology Group page, “**Orangelight Productions – OOHS theatre**” **OR** at

https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=cathy_swain-abrams%40olsd.us&ctz=America/New_York),

and getting clarification on any questions about rehearsal dates or times. More than two excused absences (requiring an email or note from the parent) and any unexcused absences may result in removal from the production.

Once cast you should check with the director before making any changes to your personal appearance (i.e. cutting your hair, changing your hair color, tattoos, or body piercings).

Safety:

ALL THEATRE STUDENTS WILL NOW BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A ONE-TIME BASIC THEATRE TECH AND SAFETY TRAINING COURSE THAT WILL BE OFFERED PERIODICALLY THROUGH OUT THE YEAR. More details will be provided soon.

A theater space can be dangerous when rules are not followed. Students who do not follow posted safety rules and safety rules included in the production packet, will be removed from the production.

Dress Code:

- *Work days and rehearsals*
 - Dress code always follows the school guidelines and should include clothing and footwear that is easy to move in during rehearsals and is suited for the character. No bare feet.
 - The student in technical theatre must wear closed-toe shoes at all times, avoid loose fitting clothing (scarves, etc.) and dangling jewelry. Hair must be secured.
- *Productions*
 - Actors are responsible for wearing the assigned costume(s) for his/her character(s). Actors are most often responsible for getting their own appropriate undergarments, socks and hosiery, and shoes. Actors should always have a lidded plastic tub, 27-30 quart is perfect, for unhangable costumes, accessories and make-up.
 - Tech students are to wear all black, including shoes, and any “costume” pieces they are assigned or asked to provide.

Strike:

Strike is the time following a production when the entire show is cleaned-up and the stage is returned to a neutral position for use by others. This is always required, and failure to assist with strike will result in loss of thespian points for that production.

Parents

Parent Volunteer Opportunities: Parents are an integral part of our successful theatre program. Parents coordinate the following parts of the theatre program:

- Ticketing: Presale and Box Office, including setting up and running Booktix ticketing program and making deposits.
- Meals: Tech Week and Dress Rehearsal means long hours, and providing meals for the students is an important part of those weeks.
- Concessions: During performances, refreshments are made available to our patrons. Usually this service is provided by the Athletic Boosters.
- Star Grams/Balloons/Flowers/Cookie Grams: These recognitions for the actors and tech crew are provided for purchase by the audience and serve as a fundraiser for theatre (not offered at every show).
- Set Crew: Building and painting are areas where many of us have skills we can share with the students.
- Sewing: We make and alter many of the costumes and seamstresses can help at school on sewing days or from home.
- Errands, Pick-ups and Shopping: Random items need to be purchased, rentals need to be picked up and returned. Save receipts and talk to director about the reimbursement process.
- Publicity: Selling advertisements for the theatre program, hanging posters and placing sign boards.
- Photography: Headshots and rehearsal photos for the program and our archives.
- Backstage Supervision: An adult presence is required backstage during long rehearsals and shows for supervision and emergency situations.
- Other: If you have a special talent that you would like to share with our students, especially if you have theatre experience, please let me know so we can utilize your skills.

Pop Arts (Parents of Performing Arts):

POP Arts is the Performing Arts Booster Group for OOHS, and middle school feeder schools, OOMS and OBMS. POP Arts raises funds through outdoor sports concessions and other events such as Pride Day (save the date, Saturday, October 5, 2019). By having a student in the performing arts, you are a member and are obligated to volunteer for the organization. POP Arts counts on parents volunteering to help raise the money needed to supply the arts programs at OOHS with the funding that is not supplied by the district. Your support and involvement are crucial to the thriving performing arts programs at OOHS. In addition, when you work

concessions it provides money to your student that can go toward fees charged by the performing arts groups. POP Arts meets at 7pm the third Tuesday of each month, usually in the library.

Since the primary fundraising dollars for POP Arts comes from outdoor concessions, each art discipline has to provide a concessions lead to help. If you can commit to that position this year, please contact Ms. Swain-Abrams.

Please log into the POP Arts website for more information on the organization and for the link to sign-up to volunteer.

POP Arts Website www.popartsolsd.com

POPArts communication through BLOOMZ:

To signup do one of the following:

NEW Bloomz Member

1. Download the "Bloomz" app from the AppStore/PlayStore and click "Create Account". If browser, go to bloomz.com and click on "Join Bloomz"
2. In the text box, enter **FFGG33**
3. Create your account

Existing Bloomz Member

1. Log into your Bloomz account
2. Click "+Add Class/Group" on the left navigation.
3. In the text box, enter **FFGG33**
4. Click Next

Join using Text Messaging Only

Text @**FFGG33** to **1-858-BLOOMZ1** (1-858-256-6691) to receive 1-way text messages from your admin

Theatre meal money is often funneled through POP Arts to help with the reimbursement process. These are the Guidelines for money collected for *POP Arts*:

- In order to keep our financial accounting secure and accurate all payments for ANY OOHS theatre activity must be sealed in envelopes, specifically labeled, and deposited into a lock box inside Ms. Swain-Abrams' room door (soon to be installed). Ms. Swain-Abrams will not collect money personally and cannot provide change.
- All checks need to have the "purpose" for the check in the Memo Line.
- If you are using a check with a different last name than the student who it should be credited for, please include the student's name in the memo line.
- Please carefully note which organization to make checks out to for each expense.
- All cash must be given in an envelope with the student's name, purpose, date, and amount included.
- Envelopes will be provided by the box for those who don't have one.
- If you need a receipt for any payment please write RECEIPT NEEDED on the envelope and we will send the receipt home with your child.
- The reimbursement process for theatre meals is handled through a form on the POP Arts website. Ms. Swain-Abrams needs to approve all of these reimbursements.

- *Production Packet:*

When your student is part of a production, a google form production packet link will be posted on Schoology and sent on the Remind for that show. It should give you all the information you need to know for the duration of the show. A meeting is held to go over information for parents whose students are new to the process and answer basic questions. If you have attended the beginning of the year meeting, attendance at production meeting at that time is optional, however it is a good way to make sure you get the information that you need. Please pay particular attention to the fees and who is payable for each fee.

Included in the production packet is the following information:

- Calendar link
- Contract and expectations
- Fees
- Meals
- Parent Volunteer Form
- Advertisement requests

INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY (ITS) TROUPE #7423

What is ITS and what is a “thespian”?

ITS is the world’s largest honorary drama organization. The members of ITS have been inducted as a result of a demonstration of a commitment to the theatre arts through points accumulated from participation in productions.

“Actors and actresses are called *thespians* in honor of Thespis, a Greek playwright and performer. Around 535 B.C., Thespis added a new dimension to drama by stepping out of the Greek chorus during a performance and reciting portions of the text alone, becoming the first actor. He is also credited with inventing the theatrical mask. *Thespian* with an uppercase “T” refers to a member of the International Thespian Society...The designation “Thespian” includes student members who excel in technical and production fields as well as performance in their high school theatre.” (from the ITS website, <http://schooltheatre.org/society/what-is-a-thespian>)

What are the benefits of being a thespian?

Through the organization, ITS, as a thespian, you may:

- audition or interview for the state Thespian production,
- apply for State Student Officer (SSO),
- apply for Thespian sponsored scholarships, and
- Compete in Individual Events (IE’s) at state conference.

Additionally, you will receive a one one-year subscription to Dramatics magazine, a certificate of induction, and an ITS membership card.

Through Orangelight Productions ITS Troupe #7423, as a thespian, you may:

- Attend special events throughout the year, such as our kick-off party, holiday party, and end of the year banquet and inductions
- Be an ITS officer
- Participate in Extreme Theatre
- Direct a one-act play as a Junior or Senior
- Receive honors and recognition, such as graduation cords

What are thespians required to do?

Members of ITS are the active leaders in theatrical productions at OOHS. Additionally, members attend meetings throughout the school year, participate in ITS sponsored fundraisers and public service projects. Several activities and outings are planned throughout the year for members, culminating in the troupe induction ceremony and banquet held at the end of the production season.

How do I join?

Students are eligible for induction when they have earned 10 points, accumulated from involvement in productions. Usually involvement in two to three high school productions will qualify a student for induction. Each point represents ten hours of quality work and points are assigned based on the approximate time commitment of the role the student plays. The point system originates from a suggested ITS system, and has been carefully adjusted to fit the needs of Orangelight Productions, as is allowed by ITS. Points records are kept by the ITS officers and are carefully assigned following each production. After induction, students can continue to accumulate points and earn recognition and honors as defined by ITS and Orangelight Productions.

ITS Officers

Officers are self-nominated each year in the spring and are elected based on the votes of members of ITS Troupe #7423. Incoming officers are announced by the outgoing officers at the ITS Induction Ceremony and Banquet.

Current Officers

President: Bonnie Burns

Treasurer: Clairece Lowther

Vice Presidents: Kaleigh Lewis

Senior Representative: Aidan Segna

Secretary: Emily Rogers

Junior Representative: Jake Rankin

Historian: Mikey Masciola

Sophomore Representative: Allie Zigmont

Clerk: Evelyn Taylor

Freshman Representative: Melia McCoy

CAPA Marquee Awards

Orangelight Productions was proud to be a part of the inaugural year of the CAPA sponsored Marquee Awards in the 18-19 school year. This recognition program for local High School Theatre culminates in a red carpet awards ceremony recognizing nominees and winners in the following categories:

Best Actor in a Leading Role

Best Actress in a Leading Role

Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Best Actress in a Supporting Role

Best Musical Production

Best Direction

Outstanding Ensemble Performance

Outstanding Student Orchestra Performance

Backstage Excellence Award

Outstanding Technical Achievement Award

Along with the Marquee Awards Program, there are opportunities for students in master classes, audition preparation and more, we post as information is provided throughout the year. Dates that are important for our students to be available are provided with the musical audition application and include some of the following:

Sat., Feb. 29, 2020	BA/BA in Leading Role Audition Prep Session, 10 am-2 pm, Ohio Theatre, Room 1
Sat., March 21, 2020	Best Actor/Actress in a Leading Role Panel Audition, 10 am-5 pm, Ohio Theatre, Room 1 & 4
Fri., April 24, 2020	Nominations Announced on Website at 3 pm
May 11-15, 2020	Awards Showcase Rehearsals, Ohio Theatre, 4-9 pm
Sun., May 17, 2020	Awards Showcase Dress Rehearsal, Southern Theatre, 12-9 pm
Mon., May 18, 2020	Awards Showcase @ Southern Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Please note that dates of the Marquee Award rehearsals coincide with the OOHS Seniors last week, one of the weeks of AP testing, and Graduation day.

Fundraising

Ticket Sales

Most of Orangelight Productions funds come from ticket sales. Theatre is expensive, from the rights to the equipment to the materials and additional personnel needed to operate a show. We try to have money to provide students with a varied and rich experience in theatre, while also operating very frugally.

A Day in the Orangelight

What is it? This is an annual elementary and middle school workshop run by the high school theatre students for the purpose of exposing students to a variety of performance and technical theatre experiences.

Why is it held? This is the only fundraising activity that is done specifically for theatre each year. To date, funds have been used to pay the \$85 per student fee for the annual State Thespian Conference for over 30-60 students. In addition, funds have purchased a fog machine, rain curtain, scrim, and lighting and sound equipment.

Future Fundraising Opportunities

Currently, there are no plans for additional fundraisers, though in the past we have had character storytimes or tea parties. In addition, ITS is civic minded and is known to donate to other organizations, such as Charity:Water, local food banks, Goodwill, Re-Store, Common Ground and Dress for Success.

Drama Club

Drama Club is anyone involved with the drama program throughout the year. Leadership positions in Drama Club are available to anyone in Drama Club, whether an inducted member of ITS or not.

Available Positions (chosen after interview with Ms. Swain-Abrams):

Shop foreman (1-2): With the assistance of the current set leads, keeps the shop organized and clean, catalogs MSDS sheets for paint and chemicals, and anticipates and makes lists for shop needs (such as tape, screws, etc).

Wardrobe (1-2): Keeps costume closet, sewing closet, and shelves neat and orderly. Follows-up on borrowed costumes, sending notices when needed, organizes costumes, accessories, and fabrics, returns borrowed pieces to stock, and puts away donations.

Librarian (1): Catalogs, organizes, updates the catalogue spreadsheet, and sends notices for Ms. Swain-Abrams' script library.

Sound and Light Crew (4+): Assists Ms. Swain-Abrams and Mr. Edgar with set-up, physical presence, and tear down for auditorium activities, such as meetings and events. With the assistance of the sound and light crew, organizes and takes inventory of the equipment, reporting any damaged or missing items, and listing any needed items (such as tape, lamps, etc). Preference will be given to previous Stagecraft students and students who have worked on shows.

Office Assistants (Copies and organizational assistance) (2): Makes copies, files, and organizes

2019-20 Year at a Glance *

**This is just intended to be highlights for the year. PLEASE, always consult the ORANGELIGHT PRODUCTIONS Calendar.*

Public URL: https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=cathy_swain-abrams%40olsd.us&ctz=America%2FNew_York

Public address in iCal format: https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/cathy_swain-abrams%40olsd.us/public/basic.ics

AUGUST

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 19 | Rehearsals begin |
| 22 | Parent/Student Meeting |
| 23-24 | Extreme Theatre – 24 Hour Project |

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 27 | OOHS Musical Announcement |
|----|---------------------------|

OCTOBER

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 3, 5, 6 | Fall Play - Shun the Heaven - Performances |
| 5 | Pride Day |
| 28-30 | Middle School Musical Auditions |

NOVEMBER

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 11, 18, 25 | Middle School Rehearsals Begin |
|------------|--------------------------------|

DECEMBER

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 6-8 | Performance Class Production |
| TBA | Information provided for State Thespian Conference and auditions for All Ohio Show |
| 17-20 | Musical Auditions |

JANUARY

- | | |
|-----|---|
| TBA | State Thespian Conference Individual Events choices due |
|-----|---|

TBA Conference Materials Deadline

31 Middle School Musical

FEBRUARY

1-2 Middle School Musical

17 A Day in the Orangelight – fundraiser

MARCH

27-29 State Thespian Conference

APRIL

16-19 Spring Musical

MAY

6 Thespian Inductions Banquet

TBA Modified Acting Class Production

18 Marquee Awards

19-21 Fall Play Auditions

JUNE

TBA International Thespian Festival