

Hello, I am Anaka Perry. I am a soon-to-be junior for this upcoming 2024-2025 school year and Theater season. My primary focus for this next school year is to try and achieve my long-term aspiration of becoming a Tech Liaison. Theater has been a major part of my life ever since I was a young child but more specifically in the past five years. I have done Eleven productions, seven of which have been in tech with the Dexter Drama Club. The shows I have done so far have been Beauty and the Beast, A Midsummer Night's Dream, A Comedy of Errors, The Little Mermaid, The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe, Descendants, The Sound of Music, Murder on the Orient Express, I have also done Frozen Jr twice and my most recent endeavor this year was Pippin.

Ever since I started to become passionate about theater I have aspired to do backstage work. I loved looking at and learning about the various intricate designs hidden in every area of tech and watching everything come together perfectly unified and perfectly magical: tech, pit, and actors. I started my theater experience with a brief beginning in acting, and that was due to the lack of technical opportunities provided at my previous school. When I transferred to Dexter my eyes were opened to the various technical possibilities in the Dexter Drama Club and the overall theater world.

Our club is different from any other drama program I have ever been in. There is something so special about our club and I truly believe that there is nothing out there quite like it. I feel like there is no better place or activity I would rather take as much pride in and put as much energy and dedication into. The second I became a part of this club I felt as though I was able to finally do what I was meant to do all along.

Over time my experience and knowledge in tech grew. I went from minimal knowledge and experience to being able to answer questions and solve problems. I have played a part in many crews: I have been on running crew/flys four times, one time on props, one time on lavs, and once as an Assistant Stage Manager. I have learned many valuable skills and lessons in the process of being a part of all these various crews. Because of the amount of time I have spent learning about technical theater I have picked up and been properly trained in many different areas of tech.

My constant anticipation and passion for tech, has made me truly fall in love with each and every aspect and the process of a show. One thing I have learned to really admire has been watching the show grow and all come together in the end which couldn't be done without the support and help of everyone. Thanks to many of my peers and past leaders, I now have a bunch of different skills in my tool belt that I will forever be grateful for. They have not only just taught me technical theater, but I have also learned how to productively communicate, work positively as a team member, and be very adaptive in all of the things I do.

I love problem-solving and working through struggles but most of all I love to help out. I feel like being there for others and ensuring everyone is working together unified as a team are two important skills to have as a Tech Liaison. I have seen them beautifully executed by past Tech Liaisons and would love to continue that legacy. I want to ensure clear communication even during times of stress, while also making sure that all voices are heard and have the spotlight which they deserve. In this position, I look forward to driving our team, strengthening our community, and being responsible for ensuring communication between all tech leads. I will use my passion and knowledge of backstage tech to work with many different kinds of unique people to solve various problems and to ensure the success and beauty of our future productions.