



Dear DSA Stagecraft & Design Families,

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year at Denver School of the Arts! We are excited about the new school year, teeming with opportunities for our students to create, express, learn, and grow in the Stagecraft & Design Department.

As you are well aware, your student is receiving a free, exemplary arts education at DSA through the Denver Public Schools. However, our district general fund budget allotment for each student doesn't begin to cover the costs related to delivering our excellent programs. And what you may not know is this: The Stagecraft & Design department is one of the most expensive majors in the school to operate due to the costly supplies, tools, and equipment we require.

In order to meet the needs of our department we are requesting that each family contribute \$150 per student to cover the extra costs of our program. All contributions to DSA are fully tax-deductible. These important dollars supplement our general fund allocation and are used to pay for things we could not otherwise afford in the department; what's more, we cannot use general fund allocations to pay guest artists. Without your contributions, we will not be able to provide the following to our students this school year:

- **Guest artist faculty**
 - **Harvy Blanks** – theatre history
 - **Kamla Presswalla** – scenic art
 - **Todd Debrecini** – special effects makeup
 - **Emily McIntyre** – stage management
 - **Nicki Harrison** – makeup, wardrobe, costume design
 - **Annabel Reeder** - wardrobe
 - **Jason Ducat** – sound design and acoustics
- **Field trips and family events**
 - Various day-field trips for all students (ticket and bus fare)
 - This Oct. we will be taking the students to see FRANKENSTEIN at the Denver Center Theatre Company
 - Advanced class participation in the Colorado Creative Careers Festival
 - Some costs associated with the Spring Banquet
- **Specialized equipment, tools, supplies, maintenance, and upgrades**
 - Scene shop equipment
 - Sewing machine repairs
 - Lighting and sound equipment upgrades

Some of you have asked how we use the mandatory arts classroom fees you pay at registration (which will be \$100 this year), and how that differs from the money we are requesting here. The fees paid at registration are restricted to classroom supplies and can only be used for very specific purposes, such as:

- Model-building supplies
- Fabrics and sewing supplies
- Drafting and drawing equipment and paint
- Printer and plotter ink and paper
- Script printing
- Standard office supplies

We hope you'll understand the importance of your financial contributions in support of your student's education. Also, please share this appeal with your extended family. Grandparents and others may be pleased to participate. And don't forget that many employers offer a contribution matching program that may double your personal donation.

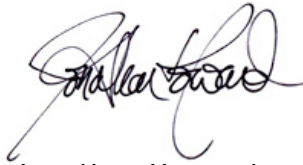
All contributions to DSA are fully tax-deductible. Please make checks out to "DSA", be sure to annotate your check "Stagecraft & Design Department" and they can be brought to the Back-to-School Potluck and Informational Session. Please contact Ms. Kirksey if you want to contribute later in the year or need to discuss a payment plan.

We will be happy to address any questions you may have about this process. **Thanks so much**, in advance, for your participation and your investment in your child's DSA experience.

With Gratitude,



Lara Kirksey



Jonathan Howard

**DSA Stagecraft & Design Department
Family Contribution Form**

Student Name: _____

Donor Name: _____

Amount Contributed: \$150 or _____

*Thank you for your generous contribution to your child's Denver School of the Arts education.
Please make checks payable to "Denver School of the Arts" note "Stagecraft & Design Department" on the
memo line.*

*Bring to the Stagecraft & Design Back-to-School Potluck and Informational Session or have your student
deliver to Ms. Kirksey in the Costume Shop.*