



All-of-us Express Children's Theatre Experience Crews



At All-of-us Express, everyone works on both sides of the curtain. Every participant who has a role on stage must next serve on a crew of their choice, earning a “crew point,” before being cast again for a stage role. This ensures that everyone has a fair chance to learn everything that AECT has to offer. There are two types of crews: Guild Crews and Experience Crews. Crew positions of both types are limited and are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Each crew member will receive a crew assignment email after auditions, and a calendar will be provided at First Read.

Guild Crews (explained in detail on Guild Crew handout)

Sets, Props, Costumes, Makeup, Lights, Sound, and Puppetry Crew (available for select shows only) are Guild Crews. A Guild Crew is a crew in which participants can earn different badges as they gain experience and learn increasingly complex skills. The progression of these badges goes from the Apprentice (beginner) level through the Journeyman level, and then to the highest level, Master. Much more information about the Guild Program and its requirements can be found on the [AECT website](#), in the Guild Program Handbook, and on the “Guild Crews” handout. **Guild Crews require payment of crew fees, just as cast members pay participation fees. ([Scholarships](#) are available.)**

Experience Crews

Sometimes a participant is not interested in progressing through the Guild Program or doesn't have enough time to devote to a Guild Crew but needs a crew point before they can audition again. In addition, some participants are too young to serve on Guild Crews. For these youth, an Experience Crew might be a perfect fit! These crews provide a crew point, but do not have any progression in responsibility. **There are no crew fees for Experience Crews.**

Usher Crew

- Usher Crew is open to all ages (6-18).
- Ushers earn a crew point by working at two performances.
- Duties include arriving 40 minutes before curtain, greeting patrons, handing out programs, and collecting tickets.
- There are two ushers at each door, one giving out programs and one to collect tickets.
- Some ushers enjoy dressing up a bit to present a good first impression for AECT patrons.
- This can be a great crew activity for siblings!



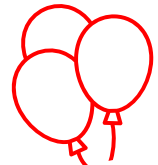
Concessions Crew

- Concessions Crew is open to youth ages 9-18.
- These crew members earn a crew point by working at two performances.
- Concessions Crew duties include arriving one hour before curtain, helping adult volunteers set up the concessions area, and gathering beverages, candy, and other snacks as patrons order them. The adult volunteers handle all cash and credit card transactions.
- The concessions area opens 30-45 minutes before curtain and is also open (and very busy!) during the intermission.
- There are usually two youth crew members working at each show.
- This can be a fun family activity if an adult volunteers to work at the same performances as their young crew member.



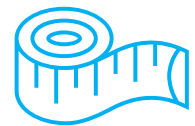
Party Crew

- Party Crew is open to all ages (6-18).
- These youth earn a crew point by working with an adult Crew Head to plan and host the cast and crew party that follows the show's final performance.
- The Party Crew usually meets twice before the day of the party, making plans for decorations, games, other activities, and party food, all while staying within a budget. On the day of the party, crew members arrive ahead of time to decorate the room and set up food and games. After the party, crew members clean up and restore the room to order.
- The party crew usually has 5-6 youth members.
- Parents are welcome (and encouraged) to assist as well!



Auditions Crew

- Auditions Crew is open to youth ages 12-18.
- Auditions Crew members earn a crew point by working at two audition nights. Auditions are typically held from 6:30-8:30pm on a Thursday and Friday.
- Duties for this crew include taking photos of auditioners for AECT records, distributing and helping fill out forms, writing down measurements (Costumes Crew members take the measurements—you don't have to know how to do that part), and providing other assistance as requested.



Signing Up for Crews

About two weeks prior to auditions for an upcoming show, two signups will be posted on the auditions page of the [City of East Lansing website](#). One signup will be for audition slots, and one will be for crews. The crew signup will include both Guild and Experience Crews. Youth sign up for their three top crew choices, and crews are assigned after the show is fully cast.