



## All-of-us Express Children's Theatre Guild 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: Experience Crews and Guild 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.

### **Experience Crews** (explained in detail on Experience Crew handout)

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 youth are too young to participate on Guild Crews. For these participants, an Experience Crew might be a perfect fit! The current Experience Crews are Usher, Concessions, Party, and Auditions. These crews provide a crew point, but do not have any progression in responsibility. More information about the duties for the crews can be found on the “Experience Crews” handout. **There are no crew fees for Experience Crews.**

### **Guild Crews & Running Crews**

Sets, Props, Costumes, Makeup, Hair (available for select shows only), Lights, Sound, and Puppetry (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 (no experience is necessary prior to beginning). The progression of these badges goes from the lowest level, Apprentice, through the Journeyman level, and then to the highest level, Master. More detailed information about the Guild Program and its requirements can be found on the [AECT website](#) and in the Guild Program Handbook.

**Guild Crews require payment of crew fees, just as cast members pay participation fees. ([Scholarships](#) are available.)**



#### **Definition:**

#### ***Running Crew***

Also known as backstage crew, these participants work backstage during performances to keep the show running smoothly and safely.

### **Costumes Crew**

- Costumes Crew is open to youth ages 11-18.
- Costumes Crew members are generally called for rehearsal one night a week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then for dress rehearsals during Tech Week and for all performances.
- These youth will help to design, construct, accessorize, and organize the costumes to be used in the production.



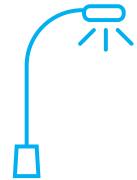
### **Hair Crew**

- **Note:** *this crew is not available for every production*
- Hair Crew is open to youth ages 10-18.
- Hair Crew members are generally called for rehearsal one night every other week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then for tech and dress rehearsals during Tech Week and for all performances.
- This crew is responsible for designing and implementing hairstyles for cast members. They work with varied hair textures and also with styling wigs.



### **Lights Crew**

- Lights Crew is open to youth ages 12-18.
- Lights Crew members are generally called for rehearsal one night every other week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then for all tech and dress rehearsals during Tech Week and for all performances.
- This crew will learn about stage lighting and will run lights for the performances.



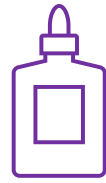
### **Makeup Crew**

- Makeup Crew is open to youth ages 10-18.
- Makeup Crew members are generally called for rehearsal once every two weeks (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then for tech and dress rehearsals during Tech Week and for all performances.
- These individuals will learn makeup design and basic application techniques for the stage. Different shows require different types of makeup (e.g., children, the elderly, animals, magical creatures).



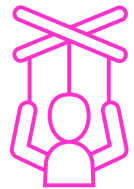
### **Props Crew**

- Props Crew is open to youth ages 11-18.
- Props Crew members are generally called for rehearsal two nights a week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then for tech and dress rehearsals during Tech Week and for all performances.
- This crew makes or gathers, organizes, and oversees the use of all props for the production.



### **Puppetry Crew**

- **Note:** this crew is not available for every production
- Puppetry Crew is open to youth ages 11-18.
- Puppetry Crew members are generally called for rehearsal one night a week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then every night for Run Week and Tech Week and for all performances.
- This crew designs, creates, and learns to perform all the puppets used in the production.
- This crew may require appearing on stage during productions, and Puppetry Crew members are frequently called to cast rehearsals for scenes involving puppets.



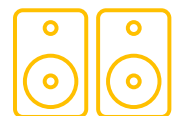
### **Sets Crew**

- Sets Crew is open to youth ages 12-18.
- Sets Crew members are generally called for rehearsal one night a week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then for tech and dress rehearsals during Tech Week and for all performances.
- Crew members will work together to design and construct the set pieces for the production. They will also be responsible for dismantling these pieces after the production closes.
- Running Crew note: Some crew members may be asked to work as Set Movers and attend Tech Week and performances.



### **Sound Crew**

- Sound Crew is open to youth ages 12-18.
- Sound Crew members are generally called for rehearsal one night every other week (6:30-8:30pm) for the first several weeks of rehearsal, then every night for Run Week and Tech Week and for all performances. (This schedule would be typical for musicals; plays may have fewer rehearsals for Sound Crew.)



- Young people on this crew will learn about sound effects for the stage. They will run all music during the shows as well as any sound effects needed.

## Signing Up for Crews

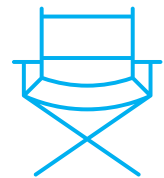
About two weeks prior to auditions for an upcoming show, two signups will be posted on the auditions page of the [City of East Lansing website](#) and AECT's website and social media. One signup will be for audition slots, and one will be for crews. The crew signup will include both Guild and Experience Crews. Youth sign up for their three top crew choices, and participants are notified of their crew assignment around the same time stage roles are cast.

## Pre-Assigned Production Team Roles

These Guild Crews are assigned before auditions because they have duties that occur before and during auditions, such as pre-production meetings and attending the auditions. If you are interested in one of these crews, you can talk to the Artistic Director to learn more and pick up an application form. More information about the Guild Program and specific prerequisites for these roles can be found on the [AECT website](#) and in the Guild Program Handbook. **These crews require payment of crew fees, just as cast members pay participation fees. ([Scholarships](#) are available.)**

### ***Assistant Director***

- Youth ages 14-18 who have met all the requirements can apply to be considered for this position. The application form is available from the Artistic Director.
- The Assistant Director attends *all* rehearsals and performances, as well as pre-production meetings, auditions, and weekly production meetings.
- This person helps the Director with blocking, giving notes to actors, and calls actors during performances.



### ***Assistant Stage Manager***

- Youth ages 14-18 who have met all the requirements can apply to be considered for this position. The application form is available from the Artistic Director.
- The Assistant Stage Manager attends *all* rehearsals and performances, as well as pre-production meetings, auditions, and weekly production meetings.
- This person facilitates communication between the directors and the crews, writes reports, and may call cues during performances.

