

# OHTC SCHOLARSHIPS IN ACTION

## Behind the Curtain Basics

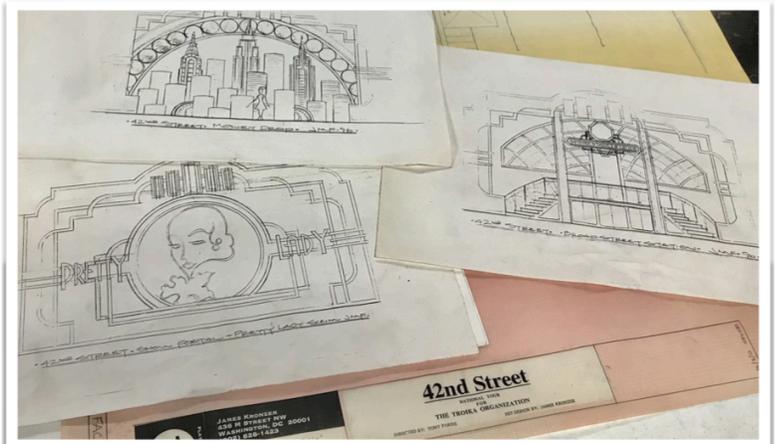
Broadway Veteran Terry Collins with students from GLOW Academy, Boys & Girls Club, NHCS and St Mary's School, designing and building sets for Opera House Theatre Company's upcoming season of shows. This branched off into the beginning of a new mentoring program.

### Broadway Tour Technical Director and Scenic Builder, Terry Collins

After earning a degree in technical design for theatre from Albany State University, Terry landed his first Broadway National Tour with "Camelot". That led to a career spanning five decades, 360 cities, thirteen different countries and 600,000 miles of touring with over 50 Broadway National and International Tours (some of them more than twice). Select credits include: "Can-Can" with Chita Rivera & The Radio City Rockettes, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" with Nipsey Russell, "Camelot" with Forest Whitaker and "Cinderella" with Eartha Kitt. Terry held top positions in the Scenic Departments with Troika Entertainment and NETworks Presentations, collaborating with Tony Award winning creative teams (William Ivy Long, Theoni V. Aldredge, John Napier, Robin Wagner, James Kronze & Heidi Landesman) to assemble international tours fresh off Broadway that toured extensively across the Pacific Rim in Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore & the entire United States. After moving to Wilmington Terry opened Scenic Asylum, where he has housed and prepped more than 21 Broadway tours to send around the globe.

(right) Drawings made by several Tony Award winning Set Designers, for sets that Terry built during his Broadway career.

We are very fortunate that he is sharing his knowledge with our future stars. The last time Terry mentored (a middle school student), her first NYC paying job was with a Broadway National tour.



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In 2021, with Broadway on pause, Opera House found a silver lining of opportunities. Students of all ages and levels took two 4 hour workshops (March 11th and July 7th) with Broadway performers, Alex Hairston, Dre' Woods, Justin Reynolds, Tracy Byrd and were taught original choreography from Broadway musicals that the performers were in, prior to Broadway's pause. After the July 7th workshop, all students were given two tickets each, to attend "Legends Live On" that evening at the Wilson Center, starring the Broadway performers. These experiences were made possible through the WIN Grant, Sponsored Scholarships and OHTC's Community Outreach Fund (now the Grassroots Program Fund).



**Deandre' Woods**, (far right & below, center) as **Alexander Hamilton** in the Broadway show **Hamilton**



**Justin Reynolds**, (right) as **Smokey Robinson**, in **Pride & Joy**



**Alex Hairston**, (right & below) as **Diva Donna**, in **Summer: The Donna Summer Musical** (left) as **Janelle Woods**, in **Beautiful, The Carole King Musical**



OHTC Alumni, **Tracy Byrd**, (left) as **Lionel Richie** in **Motown the Musical**



**Justin Reynolds, Tracy Byrd, Deandre' Woods and Alex Hairston**, in **Legends Live On!** (above)

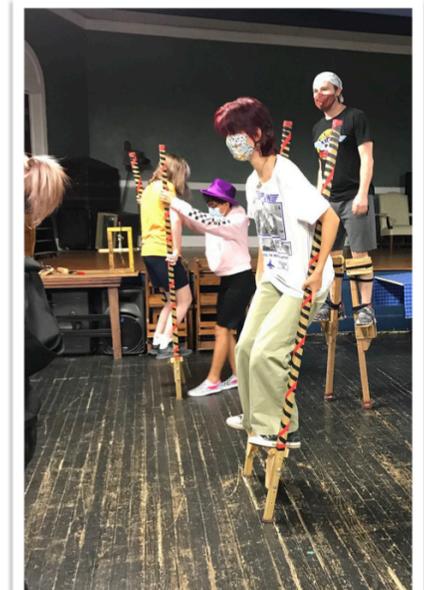
## Stage Make-up Class

Right before Halloween, director, actor, technician, Mike Thompson brought his expertise to two Behind the Curtain classes. In the second class, students drew a character type out of a hat, created their own make-up & we all had to guess what character they were portraying.



## FUN with Props

This after school class was all about props and special effects - the students had a BALL! We are talking rope tricks, hat tricks, jump rope tricks, sound effects, puppets of all sizes, fake water, appearing cane tricks, fire, stilt walking...and of course, silly prop time at the end! Jason Aycock, Opera House Company Manager and Props Department Director, was Awesome!



## Backdrop Painting with Donna Troy

Students learned several painting techniques to create the backdrop that will be used for family photos with the cast of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" presented by OHTC's Apprentice Theatre at Santa's Workshop, in Mayfaire Town Center. Students have the opportunity to work (with pay) backstage or ushering during the run of the production.



## Designing and Sewing Costumes 101

### Juli Harvey

Juli has been one of OHTC's costume designers for over 10 years. Students not only learned basic sewing techniques sewing by hand but also using a sewing machine and working with patterns. After her first class, Juli started a mentoring program where students sign-up to work with her on our shows and events. So far, students have worked on all of our shows in the season with Juli and Debbie. **A true gift in action!**



*Thank-You*  
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