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Lights, Sound, Action! Students Explore the Science Behind the Stage

Shea's and Buffalo Museum of Science Partner on "Science of Theatre" Camp

Shea's Performing Arts Center and the Buffalo Museum of Science (BMS) teamed up for a new summer camp, giving middle and high school students a unique opportunity to explore the inner workings of a theatre production through the "**Science of Theatre**" camp.

"It's great to be working with the Buffalo Museum of Science to open young minds to the fascinating ways STEM fuels the magic of theatre," **said Shea's President & CEO Brian Higgins**. "Through this camp, students discover the science at work behind the curtain and gain a glimpse into the range of creative and technical careers that bring stage productions to life."

"This fun collaboration with Shea's highlights the intersections between STEM and theatre in ways these campers may have never considered before," **said Gary Siddall, Buffalo Museum of Science President & CEO**. "This immersive camp helps illustrate that STEM professions and skills aren't just found in research labs. The combined critical thinking skills and imaginations fostered in our teen campers have applications across a spectrum of careers."

Curriculum and activities on Monday and Tuesday at the Buffalo Museum of Science includes hands-on exploration with light and color, sound engineering, energy and friction exploration, and STEM learning around weight, levers, and pulleys.

At Shea's on Wednesday and Thursday, students brought what they learned to the stage with activities around set construction, equipment and instrument workings, lighting and props design, and building the scene.

At the end of the four-day camp students executed all of the tech for the number "Popular" from the musical *WICKED*.

In addition to being a fun and educational opportunity demonstrating that science is everywhere, the camp, developed in coordination with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) is designed to inspire the next generation of stage production workers.

For information on camps and other programs offered by Shea's Performing Arts Center Department of Arts Engagement and Education, visit: <http://www.sheas.org/arts-engagement-education>. Details about Buffalo Science Museum camps and lifelong learning programs are available at: www.sciencebuff.org/programs.

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Video: Campers at the Buffalo Museum of Science

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nYNw0m4oQdihLzkpwUP8D0R7aBQ2eE2j?usp=sharing>

Group Photo: