



**Performing Arts Virtual Learning**

**7 & 8 Stagecraft  
Lighting Design**

**May 13, 2020**



# **7 & 8 Stagecraft**

## **Lesson: May 13, 2020**

### **Objective/Learning Target:**

Understanding basic terminology and equipment used  
in lighting design



# Reflection Activity

1. Think about a familiar story. This could even be a fairytale, a popular book or even a television show or movie.
2. Consider the major concerns of lighting and answer the following questions:
  - a. What is one setting of your story? How could you use light to help create the setting? For example in *The Little Mermaid*, blue lights could be used to help create water.
  - b. What is the mood of your story? How could light be used to set the mood?
  - c. What color might your lights be? What light quality? For example, if you were staging a comedy play the lights could be bright. If you have chosen a dramatic or mysterious story it may be dark and full of shadows.

# More Lighting Instruments

## Scoop

- A high-intensity flood light that provides a broad wash of light.
- Good for lighting drops, but is not easily focused.
- It can also be used for dimension lighting.
- The throw of this light is short and diffused.
- It will only be hung on the electrics.
- Uses gel for color.

**We do not have any scoops at Nowlin**





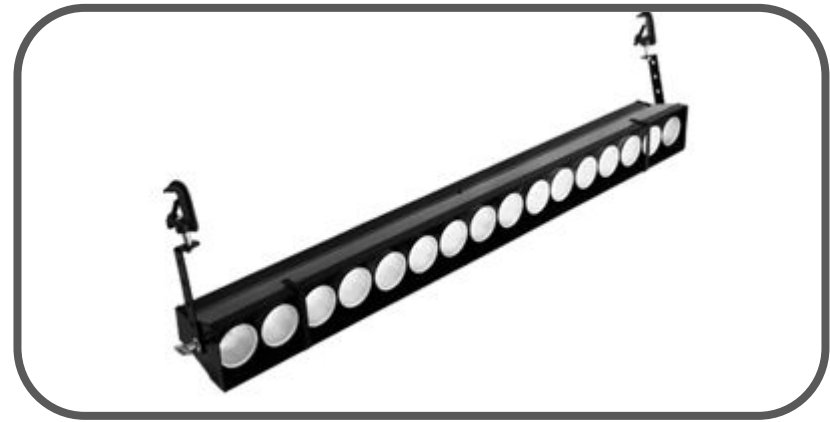
# Par Can



- This is a longer light that has a long throw.
- Cannot be focused internally. Lenses or lamps can be changed for narrow, medium or wide flood.
- Very little control, much like a car headlight.
- Barn doors can help with controlling beam, but the light does diffuse after it travels very far.
- The beam of the light has a soft edge.
- It is used for fill light or color tone and can be hung on catwalks and rails.
- Uses gel for color
- This instrument is lightweight and is used frequently by garage bands, but has fewer practical applications for stage.

For More information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uEW5L6SRKI>

# Striplight



- This is a strip of lights that can be controlled in sections.
- Usually the strips are comprised of 9 or 12 individual lamps that are circuited in groups of 3 or 4. For example, there could be a strip of 12 lamps with the sequence or red, blue, green and amber that repeats. All of the reds would be controlled together, all of the blues together, greens together, and ambers together. Each color would have its own circuit and dimmer.
- In old fashioned theatres the striplights on the floor were footlights.
- Uses glass roundels for color. These are glass versions of gels used in other instruments.

NOTE: We have these at Nowlin, but have to use gel as we have no glass roundels.

# Cyc lights

**Before we can understand what a cyc light is we must first know what a cyc is.**

Cyc is short for [cyclorama](#) which is a large wall of fabric, sometimes concave, positioned at the back of the stage. It was popularized in the German theatre of the 19th century and continues in common usage today in theatres throughout the world. ... [Cycloramas](#) are often used to create the illusion of a sky onstage.



**Cycs add a whole new dimension to the scenery and provide a virtual canvas for the lighting designer to “paint” on with lights.**

**NOTE:** Sadly we have no cyc at Nowlin, but all ISD High School theatre do have them.

## Cyc lights are:

- Large high wattage instruments that are used for coloring cycloramas or drops.
- Can also be used for dimension lighting on stage.
- Will be hung only from the electrics.
- Uses gel for color.



**BEHOLD THE BEAUTY  
OF LIGHT!**



# LED lights



**LED** lights have revolutionized theatre lighting. They are a whole new breed of light.

- The color is built into the instrument and is selected on the light board.
- LED lights burn out much less frequently than traditional lights and do not require any color media such as gel.
- The throw of this light is medium to long.
- This light can be used on the electrics and in the catwalks

# Motorized LED lights



- These instruments will do everything an LED instrument will do and in addition it can be programed to move.
- This makes them extremely versatile and valuable to the designer.
- You need a great deal of space for them to have the freedom to move. Since they can move they can do multiple duties in a production, requiring fewer actual instruments. Movement is generally done during blackouts or when the fixture is not being used in theatre applications, however You will see them move in concerts venues.



# Thinking about your Reflection Activity from Slide #3

1. What instruments would be best suited to create the setting and mood for your story?

Why?

2. How would you incorporate a cyc in your scenery?

3. Draw a picture of your story on stage.