The PA ThesFest (PA Thespian Conference) will be held January 2nd-4th, 2025 at West Chester University. PA ThesFest is a student oriented 3 day event that celebrates PA Thespians. Students will have the opportunity to watch mainstage performances, One Acts, participate in Workshops, improv pairs (watch or preform), Tech Challenges, Hat & Makeup Challenges, Jr. College showcase (Tech & Performers), Sr. Scholarships (Tech & Performers), And College exhibits.

Students do not have be inducted Thespians to participate in most of the activities at PA ThesFest, but they do need to be inducted Thespians to participate in Sr. Scholarships, Jr. College Showcase, Improv Pairs and the Thespy program (a separate active from ThesFest).

**Costs/Fundraising:**

We will continue to run fundraising through mid-October to see if we can reach our goal to cover the trip costs for everyone. Students who raised $350 or more through the Fan Pledge Telethon fundraiser on 9/5 can consider their trip costs paid. Cost for students who didn’t raise enough money through Fan Pledge will be determined after we have exhausted all other fundraising opportunities.

**Competition/Scholarship Opportunities:**

**Improv Pairs-** Teams are comprised of 2 students who are inducted Thespians and members of an active troupe. Troupes can submit *up to 2*teams. You get three minutes to perform, and no planning time will be given. Preliminary rounds will be open to others to watch (laugh and cheer on). More info about the Improv pairs on <https://www.pathespians.org/improv-pairs.html>

**STO Applications- *​***If you feel you are a strong student leader and qualify to be a STO (State Thespian Officer), complete the Application and the Signature Page by November 9th. There is to be only one candidate per troupe. At the conference, all applicants need to attend the 2 STO Leadership workshops. The conference leadership workshop will be the process through which new STOs will be selected. (you must be an inducted PA Thespian, and a Junior or senior).<https://www.pathespians.org/sto-applications.html>

**Headpiece/ Makeup team Challenge-** Teams will receive a description of a scene from a show. Teams have 1 hour to design and construct that design using the cardboard box as the stage and whatever materials you brought. For info go to:  <https://www.pathespians.org/headpiece-makeup--scenic-design.html>

**Tech Challenge-** Information at[**2024-25 PA Tech Challenge Guide.pdf - Google Drive**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZhHOkwvzX4nZ91muqMqlPU-5DqgBQ3qK/view)

**Jr. College Showcase-** The Junior College Showcase program is designed for junior students to be able to showcase themselves for colleges. This will not replace a formal college audition, but it does give students a chance to get themselves seen by the colleges and universities participating in our conference. These colleges and universities may then ask to see students at conference or further follow up.
To participate, students must be High School Juniors, inducted Thespians, and members of an active troupe. There is a $10 per person nonrefundable fee.
​*(there is no limit to the number of students that can register from each troupe)*
Students will complete their data information and make payment through the Open Water online software. The actual audition will be in person at the PA Conference. <https://www.pathespians.org/jr-college-showcase.html>

**Sr. Scholarships-** To apply, students must be High School Seniors, inducted Thespians, and members of an active troupe. No more than 3 performance and 3 tech applicants per troupe may apply. There is a $10 nonrefundable fee.
***(limit of 3 performance & 3 tech applicants per troupe) -please contact Mrs. P first before applying!***
Students will complete their data information and make payment through the Open Water online software. The actual audition will be in person at the PA Conference.
*Note: The Scholarships are only open to students planning to major or minor in some area of the performing arts. Cash Awards are open to all students.* [Sr Scholarships - PA Thespians](https://www.pathespians.org/sr-scholarships.html)

**Thespys-** Information at[**https://www.pathespians.org/thespys.html**](https://www.pathespians.org/thespys.html)

**Due Dates:**

**Conference Registration (Money, permission slips, health forms)- Oct 22nd**

*What is owed per student will be determined after early October fundraising!*
**STO applications - Nov 9th**
**Sr Scholarship applications – Oct 30th**
**Jr College showcase applications – Oct 30th**
**Thespy Info applications – Before Thanksgiving break**
**Thespy video submissions – Before Thanksgiving Break**

**Hairpiece/Makeup Challenge- Oct 30th**

**Improv pairs- Oct 30th**

**Tech Challenge- Oct 30th**

**Tentative Conference schedule:**
ThesFest is a 3-day event.
Thursday, 1/2/25 - (depart CB WEST approximately 11 am) 12:30pm-10:30pm (after lunch) - Registration, Main Stage, Workshops, *Dinner*, Sr Tech Scholarships, Main Stage
Friday, 1/3/25 - 9am-10:30pm - One Acts, Improv Challenge, Tech Challenge, Sr Scholarships, *Lunch*, Jr College Showcase, Main Stage, Workshops, College Exhibits, *Dinner*, Main Stage
Saturday, 1/4/25 - 9am-5:30pm - Improv finals, Thespy Showcase, One Acts, Hat & Makeup Challenge, Scenic Design Challenge, *Lunch*, College Exhibits, Main Stage, Closing Ceremonies (return to CB West approximately 7 pm)

*Schools invited to perform Main Stage shows* - Columbia, Dallastown, Kennard Dale, PALCS Center for Performing and Fine Arts & Penn Manor
*Schools invited to perform One Act shows* - **Central Bucks West**, Chartiers Valley, Dubois, Neshaminy, Peters Township, Springfield Township HS, Springfield Township MS, Twin Valley, Upper Dublin & Wyoming

**If you would like to create a team, or need help with the application process , or have questions please reach out to me at** **Brace.C075@student.cbsd.org** **or Mrs. Piechotta at** **cpiechotta@cbsd.org**