



YOUR PERFORMANCE AS A CAREER LAB ACTION PLANNING GUIDE

A Career Lab is any authentic experience where students practice real work roles, make decisions professionals make, and discover career pathways. Your concert, recital, jazz showcase, or recording project is exactly that—a professional-level production.

I. WHAT IS YOUR MAIN PERFORMANCE/PRODUCTION OPPORTUNITY?

Describe the performance(s), recording(s), or concert series your students participate in this year. (e.g., fall/spring concert, jazz ensemble showcase, marching band competition, chamber recital, recording project)

II. WHO ARE THE PROFESSIONALS BEHIND THE SCENES?

List the careers and professionals involved in making your performance happen. Think beyond the stage: who manages sound, schedules rehearsals, handles logistics, promotes the event, records/engineers audio, designs lighting, manages the budget?

List up to four (4) careers immediately visible in this performance:

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- ---
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III. WHAT ROLES COULD YOUR STUDENTS ACTUALLY PLAY?

Beyond "performing," what real responsibilities do students take on? (e.g., section leaders, tech crew, promotional committee, recording engineers, peer coaches, program designers, sound check managers)

List up to four (4) roles that students might be able to take on in this performance:

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IV. WHAT CAREER SKILLS ARE STUDENTS ACTUALLY DEVELOPING?

Check the skills students practice through this performance. Be specific about the real work they do.

- ☐ Collaboration & ensemble communication
- ☐ Technical proficiency (sound, lighting, recording equipment)
- ☐ Project management & deadline management
- ☐ Public speaking / audience engagement
- ☐ Marketing & promotion
- ☐ Problem-solving under pressure
- ☐ Leadership & mentoring
- ☐ Audio engineering / recording production
- ☐ Event planning & logistics
- ☐ Critical listening & peer feedback
- ☐ Professionalism & accountability
- ☐ Other: _____

V. HOW CAN YOU DEEPEN THE CAREER CONNECTION?

Choose two (2) actions that would strengthen the Career Lab experience this year:

- ☐ Invite a recording engineer or music producer to work with students during prep
- ☐ Have students interview a music industry professional about their role
- ☐ Create a "career roles" assignment where students document which professionals are essential
- ☐ Give a student team responsibility for one production aspect (marketing, tech, sound check)
- ☐ Connect this performance to a post-secondary or career pathway resource

VI. COME UP WITH UP TO THREE (3) IDEAS OF YOUR OWN TO STRENGTHEN CAREER CONNECTIONS.

- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ Other: _____

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Dr. Annamarie Bollino, Dr. Joe Clark and Marcia Neel, Clinicians