**Borrowing Equipment from Mainstage:**

SPT has its own lamps, but not its own dimmers, multiplex cable, or lightboard. These items must be borrowed from Mainstage until the point at which Troupe can raise the money to purchase our own and procure storage space for them.

Be sure to politely request these items well in advance, with the specific dates you need them for (whenever you begin tech week through the strike). Be sure to be polite and state that you are representing an SPT show; it is important for SPT to try to maintain good relations with Mainstage. Let them know which show you represent in the case of multiple shows in one semester.

Work out the details of when you seek to pick up and return the items as things go along. Often that minutiae is worked out closer to the date of the performance.

*Lightboard*:

-Ask for the one that “SPT usually borrows.” Mainstage does not usually use this one so it is easier for us to borrow this than just about any other item.

*Dimmers*:

-Most often we borrow two dimmer packs to be on the safe side.

*Multiplex cable:*

-Sometimes this is referred to as a DMX cable. If someone calls it that, go with the flow, even though these dimmers don’t actually run on DMX; they run on Multiplex, an in-house system designed for NSI products (this is the company that builds the dimmer packs we use).

*Lighting trees:*

We now own our own light weight aluminum ones. There are two and they have rubber feet so they won’t scuff the floor. You may want to barrow others from Mainstage.

Here you have a few options. One is booms and bases. These are tall poles that fit into heavy circular metal bases.

-Pro: very tall, and Mainstage usually has a number of these floating around. The bases are small though compared to tripods so if space is an issue, this can be nice.

-Con: difficult to hang lights from. Have to clamp lights on vertical pole. Can’t use a safety. If you use booms and bases, see if you can also borrow side arms (poles that branch out horizontally from the vertical pole) to hang the lights from.

Another option is tripods.

Pro= We own two. These are much easier to set up and they come with side arms. There are two different types, plastic and metal. Go with the metal ones, as they are sturdier and less likely to tip over.

It is a good idea to weight the legs of the tripods with sandbags, particularly in high traffic areas such as the Campus Center. Sandbags may also be procured from Mainstage or a hardware store if mainstage doesn’t have them.

*Ladders*:

An often overlooked item. Ladders are necessary for hanging lights, putting up curtains, etc. Assume you will need one for Tech Week. Borrow one from Mainstage. Sometimes you can have this for the entirety of Tech Week, but you may need to borrow it for set up, return it, and borrow it again for strike.

*Any other tools, etc.:*

Pipe cutters for cutting conduit, saws, drills, staple guns—any tools you need that SPT does not have immediate access to. Sometimes a member of SPT will have her own tools, but they will leave with her when she graduates. Pay attention to what tools Troupe is currently in possession of and look to purchase or borrow replacements when they are no longer available.

Rose of mainstage is awesome. If you need to build something talk to her and she may let you use her workshop to build stuff. Just contact her way ahead of time.