



Hazelwood Prep is a humanities-forward 501c3 learning community where history, language arts, and the fine and performing arts live under one roof...sometimes quite literally, since our classes take place in a mixed-use industrial space that hums with the energy of real work being made. We believe students learn best when they can see, touch, and shape the story of human creativity, not just read about it. Our arts program is designed to make that possible.

At Hazelwood Prep, the arts are not an “extra.” They are the backbone of how students explore ideas, build skills, and understand themselves as makers. Alongside their integrated history and language arts coursework, students study theatre, music, visual arts, dance, and technical production. These disciplines aren’t siloed. They speak to one another, just as they do in the real world.

The heart of our program is our performance season. Each year, students produce two full-scale productions, typically performed at the Lawrenceville Arts Center. This is an opportunity that gives young artists the experience of working in a professional venue with professional expectations. In addition, students participate in two student showcase events, where works-in-progress, original pieces, and class projects have a home of their own.

What makes Hazelwood Prep distinct is that students are not simply cast in roles, they are invited into the artistic vision of each production. Under the guidance of working artists (directors, designers, choreographers, musicians, and technicians), students learn every aspect of bringing a show to life. They build sets, run lights, design props, and solve the thousand small problems that make theatre the world’s most collaborative art form. They learn how to take creative risks, how to revise, how to listen, and how to contribute meaningfully to a shared artistic goal.

In short, Hazelwood Prep’s arts education program is a living laboratory where students practice the habits of mind that the arts teach best: curiosity, discipline, empathy, and the ability to make something beautiful and true out of the raw materials in front of them. It is a program rooted in story, community, and the belief that young people deserve real tools, real mentors, and real stages on which to grow.

Education Through Theatre

Our reasoning for teaching classical theatre is as follows:

Classics as a basis for literature: If students can effectively read and understand Shakespeare, Oscar Wilde, Charles Dickens and Lewis Carroll, to name a few, navigating other academic texts becomes easier. This helps sharpen their thinking skills by exposing them to challenging materials.

Advanced Vocabulary: Students who study Classical Theatre can learn to understand dialogue better and also get better at writing by seeing how authors with a lasting legacy use sentence structure, punctuation, and other literary techniques.

Character study: The Study of Classical Theatre immerses students into the lives, worldviews, and mentalities of people they’ve never encountered, visit places they’ve never been, and comprehend historical periods they’ll never directly experience.



Timelessness: Themes from classical plays are still relevant today. From Ancient Greek tragedians or early 20th-century playwrights, these plays are still relatable in their characters, topics, and language.

History: Because classical plays are grounded in history, even when not exactly historical, we are presented with themes, settings, and situations rooted in time periods that help students immerse themselves in history.

The Root of the Problem: Fairytale Edition will be performed in the Lawrenceville Performing Arts Center's Peach State Studio in May of 2026, and will feature three paid performances. In addition to performing the show, students will also coordinate and lead show design in props, costumes, and set. For this first show, technical staff at the Aurora Theatre will handle lighting design with key students in assistant roles. Additionally, the Shakespeare Summer Camp will be performed in June of 2026. Again, students will lead show design in props, costumes, and set. To offer these hands-on learning opportunities to our students, we have budgeted the following expenses:

Expenses	The Root of the Problem	Summer Shakespeare	Total
Facilities Rental	\$5,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,500.00
Teaching Artists	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00
Technical Services	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00
Fight Choreography	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Costumes	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
Props	\$500.00	\$350.00	\$850.00
Set	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$750.00
Ticketing Set Up Fee	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Script Printing	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$150.00
Show Shirts	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$400.00
Insurance	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$600.00
Programs	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$300.00
Meals on Show Days	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$300.00
Totals	\$14,900.00	\$5,950.00	\$20,850.00

In addition to financial support, there are opportunities for sponsors to provide tangible support of this project. For any live stage performance, audience attendance is greatly appreciated, and we are happy to provide complimentary tickets to your organization. Furthermore, as a major sponsor of this production, your organization would be featured on promotional materials including an ad in the program for which the specs vary based on level of support. Thank you for the opportunity to apply for financial support of this project. We hope you can join us by partnering in the productions of Hazelwood Prep Presents *The Root of the Problem: Fairytale Edition* and our Shakespeare Summer Camp.