

June 30, 2026



Hello!

We are thrilled that you'll be joining us for the **Summer Spotlight Intensives July 12-18** at Troy University! We're sending you some information regarding the sessions and activities that our participants can expect, as well as information for parents and families.

Just a few reminders and some new information:

- **Check-in is on Sunday, July 12 from 2:00-3:00pm** in John M. Long Hall. **(Heads up: this is a different location from years past!)** We'll get you registered and give you time to move into your dorm room. We'll start activities at 3:00pm for all participants in the Trojan Center Theatre. Parents do NOT have to stay once participants are moved into dorms.
- **Balances owed must be paid by the first day of Intensive.** You can submit payments at www.troy.edu/summerspotlight (scroll to the bottom and click the "[Pay Remaining Balance](#)" button).
- **Fill out three (3) online forms.** You'll need to go to www.troy.edu/summerspotlight, click "[Complete All Forms](#)" button. Then select your camp, enter your camper's name and a parent's email address, and you will be emailed all three (3) online forms to complete. Please submit these before the start of Intensive on Sunday.

Friends and family are welcome to come see the Spotlight Showcase on **Saturday, July 18 at 1:00pm** in the Trojan Center Theater, after which you may check out of your dorms.

As always, please feel free to call our office with any questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tori Lee Averett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tori Lee Averett

Director, Summer Spotlight
theatreanddance@troy.edu
(334)808-6142



Intensives 2026 Daily Schedule

Sunday, July 12

2:00-3:00	Check-In, Registration, Dorm Check-in	John M. Long Hall
3:00	Orientation	TC Theater
3:30	Auditions + Opening Activities	
5:45	Dinner	Trojan Dining
6:30	Activities + Auditions Continue	Various
Following	Full Group Activity	Long Hall Studio

Monday-Thursday, July 13-16

9:00-10:15	Session 1	
10:30-11:45	Session 2	
11:45-12:45	Lunch	Trojan Dining Hall
1:00-2:15	Session 3	
2:30-3:45	Session 4	
4:00-5:00	Full Company Rehearsal	TC Theater
5:00-6:15	Dinner	Trojan Dining Hall
6:30-8:30	Small Ensemble Rehearsals	
8:45	Evening Activities	Various
10:00	Dorm Curfew	

Friday, July 17

9:00-10:30	Workshop 1	
10:45-11:45	Q&A with Guest Artists	Long Hall Studio
11:45-12:45	Lunch	Trojan Dining Hall
1:00-2:30	Workshop 2	
3:00-4:00	Rehearsal 1 (TBD)	
4:15-5:15	Rehearsal 2 (TBD)	
5:15-6:15	Dinner	Trojan Dining Hall
6:30-until	Showcase Rehearsal (Tech)	TC Theatre
Following	Dorms	

Saturday, July 18

8:30	Call for Showcase Rehearsal	TC Theater
9:00-11:00	Showcase Dress Rehearsal	TC Theater
11:00-12:00	Lunch	Trojan Dining Hall
12:30	Call for Showcase	TC Theater
1:00	Showcase	TC Theater
Following	Dorm Checkout	Clements Hall



Intensives 2026: Expectations of Conduct

- **Be Safe. Be Respectful. Try Your Best.**
- **We are guests of the University.** We must all be respectful of this property and the people who work here. This means minding your noise levels, disposing of trash, taking care of the spaces and tools you use, being polite to people you encounter on campus, and generally conducting yourselves in a respectful manner.
- **Be on time!** Being punctual, present, and prepared is imperative for the week and for sustained study and professional activity in the arts.
- Be where you are supposed to be – do not wander the campus, leave your group, or go anywhere alone. The only places you need to be are the ones where we're having our activities. You should always travel with at least one other person.
- Wear appropriate **clothing** – clothes you can move in and work in and that you don't mind getting dirty. Wear appropriate shoes that stay on your feet.
- **Hair** should be secured out of your face.
- Attention to **personal hygiene and cleanliness** is a matter of health and consideration – please keep yourself and your environment clean and presentable, and be sure to practice good habits like washing your hands, staying hydrated, and getting enough sleep. Please inform staff of any health or wellness concerns or needs.
- **Cell phones** will be allowed only if they are turned off and put away during daily activities at camp. They may be used in case of an emergency.
- No Apple watches/wearables, handheld games, or any other **electronics** during the day – these are distracting to YOU and OTHERS (though it's OK to have them, just leave them put away or turned off).
- **You may NOT leave campus.** If you are commuting, you must stay on campus during all camp activities during the day, including meals and breaks. You must arrive by 8:30am and you may not leave until 10:00pm when daily activities have ended.

- **You may not ride in a vehicle** on campus unless there is a medical emergency that requires it, or unless you have express permission from camp/University personnel.
- **You may not have visitors** during the day, or at night in the dorms. This includes parents and other family members. This is for your protection and ours.
- **You are not to enter another person's personal space without their clearly expressed consent.** This includes touching a person or their belongings, entering someone's dorm room, or being closer in proximity to a person than they're comfortable with. When in doubt, ask. You should ask for permission before touching, and you should always respect what the other person wants and doesn't want.
- Summer Spotlight is a supportive and constructive environment that provides a safe space for self-expression, creativity, freedom, and exploration. Any words, actions, or behaviors that disrupt this environment and/or inhibit participants from having a safe and enjoyable learning experience are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Emergency Procedures

- If there is an emergency with a participant, we will contact parents/guardians using information provided to us.
- If PARENTS have an emergency and need to contact or pick up your child, please come to the Theatre Office in Wright Hall 115 or call **(334) 808-6142** during the day. At night, you may reach the Troy University Police/Security at **(334) 670-1999**. In case of severe weather, fire, or other unforeseen events, we will follow University emergency plans.

Violation of rules and expectations will result in immediate consequences, up to and including suspension from activities or dismissal from the Intensive (being sent home), at the discretion of the Director. Repeated or egregious violations may result in participants not being allowed to return to Summer Spotlight in the future.



Intensive 2026 FAQ

What should I bring to the Intensive?

We will supply you with the following:

- ★ 3-ring binder
- ★ Pencils, pens
- ★ Highlighter
- ★ Repertoire materials (scripts, songs, etc. collected during the week)
- ★ T-shirt
- ★ Meal ticket, nametag, lanyard

Here is a list of things we think might be helpful for you to bring:

- ★ Snack items, particularly breakfast foods for your room (breakfast not provided; meal ticket is for lunch and dinner only)
- ★ Comfortable clothing you can work/move in during daily sessions and rehearsals
- ★ Showcase attire – We'll provide you with a t-shirt, but we ask that you bring jeans or dark colored pants (no shorts) to wear with it for the show. It's a good idea to bring **black** bottoms (pants, leggings, joggers) – that's a typically popular choice for showcase.
- ★ DANCERS need to bring all-black performance attire.
- ★ Secure shoes (no flip flops or loose shoes during sessions and rehearsals) as well as comfy shoes for relaxing
- ★ Dance shoes (only if you have them and regularly wear them – please don't buy new shoes just for this week!) We most often use ballet shoes, jazz shoes, character shoes, sneakers, and sometimes tap shoes.
- ★ Audition materials for Sunday night (monologue and/or song – see attached note)
- ★ A bag to carry around campus – to keep stuff in throughout the day
- ★ Refillable water bottle
- ★ Toiletries (shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, hair accessories, makeup, etc.)
- ★ Any medicines you regularly take (list on medical info sheet)
- ★ Bath towels
- ★ Sheets, pillow, etc. for bed (twin-XL or full-sized)
- ★ Phone – for use in your FREE time, and in case of emergency
- ★ Extra spending money – for snacks, souvenirs, recreation, etc.
- ★ Repertoire notebook (if you have one) – this is a collection of all your performance "stuff"...monologues, scenes, songs, etc. that you've been

gathering and working on, as well as some stuff you WANT to work on (not required)

- ★ Portfolio or “book” (if you have one) – this might include your resume, headshot, pictures of shows, awards, etc. (not required)
- ★ Mini fridge (optional - only if you want one in your dorm room)

* You can see pictures and information about Troy University dorms and amenities here:
<https://www.troy.edu/student-life-resources/housing/index.html>

*We will be staying in Clements Hall dorm. Take a look at some details about that dorm here: <https://www.troy.edu/student-life-resources/housing/clements-hall.html>

*Take a look at the full campus map if you’d like to get a preview of your home for the week:

<https://map.concept3d.com/?id=1843#!ce/48881?ct/50299,48189,48977?m/488526?s/>

What should I expect to experience during the Intensive?

While we want you to have SO MUCH FUN during this week of Summer Spotlight, we know you signed up for this because you want to work, learn, and develop your skills...and hopefully you’ll get a chance to have fun *while also* working hard. The sessions and rehearsals will be intense and fast-paced, and the schedule will be packed full of activity. Everyone will receive one-on-one attention and coaching, but we’ll also collaborate and do a lot of ensemble and partner work. Your session leaders and directors will expect a lot from you, and will probably push you to stretch further and work harder during the week. We want YOU to leave BETTER and more CONFIDENT in your abilities, and we’re ready to work with you to make that happen. All that we ask is that you *COME READY TO WORK AND LEARN*.

What sorts of things will we be doing during the week?

Each day of the Intensive is filled with these general things:

- **Sessions** – These are workshops/classes in various areas of performance (acting, dance, movement, singing, choreography, improv, writing, design, etc.). Some sessions will be with the full group, but most sessions will be in small groups.
- **Rehearsals/Production Time** – In the afternoons and evenings, we’ll all be rehearsing various pieces and numbers for the Spotlight Showcase. These numbers vary from musical theatre to movement/dance to scenes. We’ll also be stage managing, building, painting, focusing lights, writing scripts, editing video, etc. during times set aside for production work. Art and Film students will have lots of studio work time.
- **Evening Activities** – After dinner, you get to enjoy some fun time with other

Intensive residents. The counselors often prepare entertainment or recreation activities. There will also be time to rest and prepare/work in your room.

When is the audition? Why are we auditioning? Do I have to?!

On Sunday, we will have a general audition for everyone in the Performance Intensive (Tech, Studio Art, and Film Intensive participants will not audition, but will do other startup things). We're doing this for two reasons: it will help us cast you in an ensemble/project for the showcase, and it will let us decide what group to put you in for acting/movement sessions. During the audition, we want to hear you speak and sing on stage, so bring *something* to show off. Here are some need-to-know details:

- ★ Acting Only: Prepare a memorized monologue (Time Limit: 60 seconds)
- ★ Acting+Singing: Prepare one monologue and one 16-32 bar song selection (bring a prepared track with you – we'll supply the Bluetooth speaker) (Time Limit for monologue and song combined: 90 seconds)
- ★ Dance Audition will follow for Dancers; Movement audition for all in the evening

NOTE FOR DANCERS: Dancers do NOT need to prepare solo dance auditions – there will be a group dance audition after the speaking/singing auditions. However, dancers will need to audition with at least a monologue or a song – just something that lets you speak briefly on stage. If you don't have a memorized monologue or song, you can bring something to read aloud or you will be given something to read at auditions. Don't stress! This is a great thing for you to experience and practice, even if it's your first time doing it. We'll help you. ☺

I am a commuter (not staying on campus in the dorms). What's different for me?

All you need is a ride to campus in the morning and a ride home at night. Our day runs from about 8:30am until about 10:00pm. Once you arrive on campus in the morning, you MAY NOT LEAVE until the day is over, and you MAY NOT ride in cars while on campus. We simply can't allow you to leave or drive around – it is a liability for the Department as well as the University.

What's the difference between those of us coming for Theatre, those coming for Dance, and those coming for Film or Studio Art? What about those of us coming for Tech & Management?

Everyone has the same basic schedule of sessions and rehearsals, and there are sessions offered in all these areas. Here's a breakdown:

All **Performance** participants will be placed in a movement or dance class and in an acting class. Performers of ALL types can benefit from both these classes! We believe in catering to your strengths while also helping you stretch into new areas that will benefit your skills and talents. For the other two sessions, you can take advantage of any of the elective

classes offered – acting, musical theatre voice, ballet, jazz, puppetry, auditioning techniques, private vocal coaching, playwriting, contemporary/modern, movement for actors...you're welcome to make the choices that best suit you and your talents and interests! You're also welcome to try some Tech sessions.

Tech & Management Intensive participants will cycle through various sessions on theatrical management, technical theatre, design, and production. We want you to get a taste of several different aspects of this side of theatre, and strengthen existing skills while also gaining some new experiences. You are also welcome to try some Performance sessions, if you are interested in choosing some of that for your elective sessions.

Film Intensive participants will be mainly focused on the production of a multifaceted project that will introduce students to all aspects of filmmaking, including understanding and leveraging technology, concepting and writing, scouting and shooting, post-production and effects, and concludes with online delivery and marketing of the final student-created, original, short film. If you have interest in Performance or Tech sessions as well, let us know.

Studio Art Intensive participants will focus in multiple media – drawing, painting, sculpting, etc. – to increase your exposure to different ways of creating art. You'll also get to focus closely in one or more areas, and you'll have lots of time and space for creating, refining, and experimenting individually with your artistic ideas and approaches.

What/When is the Showcase?

The Spotlight Showcase is a chance to show off what you've learned and rehearsed and developed during the week of the Intensive. The show will include some things from your sessions, as well as pieces from rehearsals. In addition, if there are other things that just "come up" during the week (if you and a friend choreograph a cool dance piece or work up an awesome musical duet), we'd love to showcase that as well. The showcase is designed, managed, and run by the Tech & Management Intensive participants. The Film Intensive participants will show their final film as part of the Showcase. The Showcase is Saturday at 1:00pm. Family and friends are invited; admission is free. Masks are strongly encouraged for audience members. **The Studio Art Intensive** participants may showcase or exhibit as well before or after the performance showcase, offering friends and family an opportunity to experience artwork created during the week.

I don't have a lot of experience, so I don't really have a portfolio or repertoire book. Is that bad? What should I do?

It's TOTALLY alright. Part of what we'll do during the week is help you collect materials for your repertoire, and help you develop your portfolio. If you have NOTHING, that's OK, too – we all start somewhere. What's most important is that you SHOW UP! ☺

For performers: Your repertoire book is all the performance materials you've collected for yourself – copies of monologues and scenes, sheet music for songs, etc. We'd especially like you to bring songs, scenes, and other things that ARE NOT perfect, but that you'd LIKE to work on during the Intensive.

For technicians and visual artists: Your portfolio is simply a way to show the instructors what your experience, interest, and focus areas are. This doesn't have to be "fancy" or professional – just something that introduces us to your drawing, design, video skills, etc.

**I know this is an "Intensive", but does that mean we're going to be working all the time?
Do we ever get to have any free time or do any fun activities?**

While the schedule is pretty packed, there will be times that are a little less demanding. Each night will feature some sort of free time...after rehearsals and sessions are completed. These are some common activities from years past:

- ★ Cabaret show (you can perform!)
- ★ Movie night
- ★ Relays and Games (Hunger Games, Trivia, Scavenger Hunt, Lip Sync Battle, etc.)
- ★ TechOlympics

What about electives? **You'll choose your elective sessions when you arrive on Sunday.**

FRIDAY: Friday will be a "workshop day" in which you'll get to choose a one-time-only workshop period with a staff session leader. There's also a Q&A session with all our visiting guest artists.

What about the SPOTLIGHT CABARET?

Yes, we will be continuing the tradition of the Spotlight Cabaret on Thursday evening! Please think ahead about whether you would like to put your talent on display for the other Intensive participants – auditions will be held during the week. There are opportunities for lighting and sound designers as well as stage management, and even filmmakers – let your work shine on stage in this student-run show.

Some Helpful Words from Past Participants...

“Don't be afraid to go outside your comfort zone and try something new. No one is there to judge you and everyone wants you to succeed, so try something new and have fun doing it.”

“In the days approaching Summer Spotlight, I was apprehensive to say the least. The doubt in my head gave me a list of reasons why I should just stay home. *What if I don't make any friends? What if I'm not my best? What if I get homesick? What if the teachers are mean?* To tell the truth, only one reason packed me up and sent me on my way: “I've already paid.” At the end of day one at Summer Spotlight those doubts had not completely gone away, but the desire to stay home was GONE. There is no place more accepting, positive, and encouraging than this space. Those doubts? Bring them on... but be prepared to loosen the grip you have on them and dive into a fulfilling week of learning and honing your craft. Summer Spotlight played such a large part in me finding my way as an artist. My advice? Let go and just do it. Enjoy the ride. Take everything you can from this experience and do your very best. You will get out what you put in.”

“Focus on yourself. It's very easy to look at others around you and compare yourself, but at the end of the day everyone gets something different and special to them out of Spotlight!”

“Some quick tips for newbies: Take it seriously, and don't let it hurt your feelings. If you're kind, smart, and courageous in being yourself, you can make life long artist connections. I also encourage you to chase the uncomfortable. You won't always be picked. You won't always be helped. You'll get the opportunity to work with some of the most creative minds in exciting spaces. You'll also have to figure things out by yourself. But isn't that being an artist?”

From TROY Conference Services
We hope you will consider Troy University your
"Home Away From Home" while you are visiting our campus!

Here are a few suggestions on items to bring...

-  Personal Hygiene Items (Soap, toothpaste, etc.)
-  Plastic bucket/bag for shower items
-  Sheets/pillowcases (NOTE: Clements Hall uses twin-XL beds)
-  Pillows
-  Blanket/bedspread
-  Mattress Pad (quilted)
-  Umbrella/raincoat
-  Clothes hangers
-  Irons
-  Flip flops/shower shoes
-  Water bottle
-  Change for vending machines or spending money for University Bookstore
-  Snack items (granola bars, Pop-Tarts, fruit, etc.)

All residence halls have drink and snack machines in the building. **Residence Halls DO NOT have microfridges in them.** There are not ice machines in the residence halls.

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TROY UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

