

## Chapter 13 – Lighting

Ideal lighting equipment for the school is

- Flexible
- Efficient
- Economical

### Flexibility

1. mobility: how easily you can move an instrument
2. control: how easily you can control the amount of light, usually by a dimmer panel
3. multiple service: how many different areas you can light with the instrument

How to determine what lighting equipment is needed

1. Number of **Dimmers** – an electrical device that controls the amount of current flowing into a lighting instrument, thus increasing or decreasing the intensity of the light
2. the size of the stage
3. height of the theater ceiling or distance of the balcony rail
4. availability of mounting locations
5. budget

See page 443 for equipment

### Basic Lighting Principles

1. Intensity – the brightness or dimness of color or light
  - a. Not all scenes need to be at full
  - b. Not everyone needs to be in the light
  - c. Dimming up and dimming down should happen gradually
  - d. Crossfade – some lights come up at the same time others dim down
  - e. Intensity and color cause changes in make up and costumes

2. Color – roundels or gel – change color of the light
  - a. Curtains, costumes and furnishings are affected by light
  - b. Color on color can change the fabrics
  - c. Different types of materials can also be affected
  
3. Distribution – angle of lighting and number of instruments
  - a. Wash – a low-level fill light, usually aimed from the balcony rails
  - b. Key light – the strong source of light aimed at an acting area
  - c. Fill light – the light that fills shadows, aimed opposite a key light
  - d. Sidelighting – the placing of lighting instruments behind the tormentor position for facial modeling and costume accent
  - e. Backlighting – the use of lighting instruments above and behind performers to accent the performers and set them apart from the background