When you are planning the lighting for your production, there are five objectives of lighting design that help steer you through the creative process. It may not always be possible to meet all of your objectives all of the time, but try to achieve as many as possible with every cue you create and you are on the right track!

**VISIBILITY**

This is the most important objective – your audience needs to be able to see what is happening on stage. Using Front Light is a good way to increase visibility.

**SETTING THE SCENE**

Lighting can help tell the story and show the audience the time of day, season, and location of the play.

**MOOD**

Color, intensity, and angle all work together to help create and support the mood of the scene.

**REVELATION OF FORM**

Shadow creates shape and dimension. Introducing planned shadows to your design will create interest. Side Light is helpful when sculpting the stage.

**COMPOSITION**

When you are painting with light, try to create pictures that are both beautiful to look at and functional for the scene.

“Lighting designers create the air that the actors breathe.”

Jean Rosenthal