

# HOW TO GUIDE FOR STAGE MAKE-UP

The purpose of stage make-up is to provide the performer with a natural-looking face. The extreme lighting used on a stage removes the shadows that allow our eyes to perceive a face as three-dimensional. Without shadows, the performer's face will look like a flat, blank piece of paper. Stage make-up enables us to draw shadows and highlights on our child's faces, restoring their natural look under thousands of watts of stage lighting. Stage make-up is NOT simply heavy everyday make-up; it utilizes different principles to solve an entirely different set of challenges.

**YOU WILL NEED:** primer, foundation or tinted moisturizer, blush, dark brown eye shadow (i.e. Covergirl 740 brown smolder), white eye shadow, false eyelashes, black mascara, black liquid eyeliner, black pencil eyeliner, brow pencil, lip liner, lipstick (specified below), and translucent setting powder.

When choosing colors for make-up, look for colors that are deeper shades of their natural coloring. Do not choose bright pinks, bright reds, oranges, etc. The aim is to create a naturally-colored, youthful face on the stage, not a candy-colored pop star. While it is not necessary to buy high-priced cosmetics for these purposes, we do recommend products that are waterproof and have long-lasting wear. Remember that most cosmetics expire anywhere between three months and a year.

**PRIMER AND FOUNDATION:** Begin by applying primer. Apply tinted moisturizer for clear skin or a light foundation for skin going through stress. Use concealer to cover blemishes and/or under eye circles. Be sure to blend foundation into the hairline and down the neck. A powder can be used for additional light coverage.

**FALSE EYELASHES:** Trim the lashes to fit the eye. Apply with clear lash adhesive and allow to set completely before opening eyes or applying eye shadow. If your child has extremely straight lashes, gently curl them before applying the falsies.

**EYE SHADOW:** Use your brown eye shadow in the crease of the eye, extending it slightly beyond the outside edge of the eye. Apply white eye shadow on the lid, brow bone, and inner corner of the eye. DO NOT blend the shadow into each other. While it may look and feel unnatural to apply eye shadow in this manner, remember that we are drawing the highlights and shadows onto the performer's face to be seen over 25 feet away under extremely bright lighting.

**BROWS:** If your child has light hair or thinner eyebrows, you will want to darken their eyebrows. Use a brow pencil to draw in a slightly thicker, slightly darker brow. Your child's face will look strange if they appear to have no eyebrows onstage!

**MASCARA:** Apply a light coat of black mascara to the underside of the top lashes. Use an eyelash curler to press the false lashes and real lashes together. *Do not curl the lashes or squeeze too tightly!* A light coat of mascara can also be applied to the outside edge of the lower lash line.

**EYELINER:** Line the top lash line with liquid eyeliner, beginning in the inner corner and ending  $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the natural outer edge of the eye. Once the liner is dry, apply black pencil liner to the lower lash line. Begin in the center of the eye and extend the line  $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the natural outer edge of the line. DO NOT connect the lines at the corner of the eye.