Costumes

* Generally five ways to get the costumes needed for a production
  + Pull – pull from collection of previously used items
  + Rent – can be expensive; can often be ill-fitting or in poor condition
  + Borrow – issues related to wear and tear with borrowing items from others
  + Buy
  + Build – making a costume; most difficult way of getting costumes – but probably most satisfying; when the costume is built from scratch, you can be sure you are getting the exact look you have envisioned
    - Swatches – color swatches are gathered and tried under lights/with the scenery
* Modified Authenticity – fashions do not have to be replicated stich by stich as long as the prominent design elements and the basic silhouette are in place to identify the era/time period of the piece
* Elements of style
  + Fabric – textures and types of fabric tell about the character (status/personality)
  + Color – help identify and define character; help establish tone of play ; colors must harmonize or contrast with the set (if a costume if the same color as the same it will get lost); color can help audience identify characters in plays with large casts
  + Decoration – includes trim (buttons/lace/etc) and accessories (hats/shoes/fans/canes/jewelry); can be used to emphasize and project details about the character in the plays
* Comfort – in order to perform convincingly, actors must be able to move and perform comfortable onstage; costumes should not get in the way and actors should appear comfortable in costumes – b/c as the characters onstage they are simply wearing clothing