Extended First Experience, presented by Alpha Psi Omega

**I. Overview:**

The following document presents a summary for an alternative theatre production to be held in lieu of the Alpha Psi Summer show. A possible schedule is presented, along with a review of the potential impact on the RPI community.

Extended First Experience, or EFE, as it will be referred to, will take place over 2 weekends. Both the technical departments and actors will have a chance to work on small projects that showcase the capabilities of the RPI playhouse while educating both existing and potential new members. Overall the environment should be relaxed and allow people who are interested in theatre to show up and participate in multiple areas of theatre, while getting to know the current players. The event will culminate in the public presentation of any work done, and in a short free performance of a few scenes, chosen by students.

The following outline is fluid, and subject to change depending upon the availability of the groups involved and the interest of outside groups. It is my intent, if this event is chosen, to reach out to local directors and educators gauging interest in holding professional educations workshops. This too will be discussed below.

**II. Schedule Breakdown:**

All dates are in August, 2014:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 22th | | 23rd | 29th | | 30th |
| Tech | Acting |  | Tech | Acting |  |
| Set Design Project 1 | Scene Selection | All departments hold workshops | Set Design Project 2 | Rehearsals | Tech Display Work |
| Light Design Project 1 | Preliminary Rehearsals | Independent events | Light Design Project 2 |  | Screenings |
| Sound Design  Project 1 |  |  | Sound Design  Project 2 |  |  |
| Costume Design Project 1 |  |  | Costume Design Project 2 |  |  |
| Prop Design Project 1 |  |  | Prop Design Project 2 |  |  |
| Publicity  Project 1 |  | Movie Night | Hair and Makeup Project |  |  |

**II. A. Project 1;** 7-12pm: Departments begin working on basic projects that are the most basic steps taken to prepare for a show. For example:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Set | Pull Flats, Set them up, Fly things, build something weird |
| Light | Clean Lights, Hang some |
| Sound | Set up speakers, |
| Costume | Sort, store, repair |
| Publicity | Painting, creating ads and stuff |
| Acting | People show up to work together on reading a play, picking one, to be performed. |

**II.B. Workshops;** 1pm to 4-5pm: Saturday afternoon, all departments have workshops teaching how to use specific equipment. This time is not to be spent working on a project, but rather educating people how specific tools are used, how certain things are created or set up. Workshops are on the shorter side, to allow people chances to attend multiple. Acting and improv workshops will also take place, playing games, or reading scenes and having directors work with them on their skills. Once again this is not a time to work on the plays/scenes chosen from the night before, but rather shorter times to allow people to rotate in as they show up.

**II.C. Saturday Night Fun;** 8-(whenever)pm: Spent all day making new friends? hang out with them some more! Watch a movie, play Magic, eat pizza on the Alpha Psi dime.

**II.D. Project 2;** 7-(whenever)pm: Departments work on things needed to perform the scenes chosen the previous project night. At the same time the rehearsals are ongoing as directors work with the scenes.

**II.E. Presentation;** Saturday day and night: Any special projects created by the tech departments are displayed PUBLICALLY, whether that be outside the playhouse, somewhere more central. Cool costumes-> hang them in commons for the afternoon to advertise for players. Cool Set🡪 Drag it outside and have people play with it.

Screenings: Show off the scenes, in the playhouse, at like 8 or 9. Total time should be no more than 1 hour of theatre, given the time of preparation.

**III. Additional Events:**

Beyond the basic schedule set out above, EFE should include events and workshops beyond the capabilities and knowledge of the RPI Players. While these events would be organized by Alpha Psi, they should be run by Professionals, potentially volunteering their time. These events could take many forms, but some commonly discussed examples are Audition Workshops, Stage Combat Workshops, and Improv Comedy Workshops. The events, ideally, would take place on the two Saturdays in question.

The idea behind these additional events are to ensure the participation of those already involved in theatre, but who are looking for something they do not normally have access to. In addition, Alpha Psi has many alumni or associates who regularly work at the Community Theatre level. By reaching out to these individuals, Alpha Psi would be directly bringing talent and experience to the RPI community in ways normally unavailable to the students.

**IV. Estimated Costs:**

Due to the fluidity of the event, costs are hard to estimate, and thus no quotes will be submitted with this document. However, an overview of some costs that may arise are addressed below.

Construction Supplies:

In attempt to not deplete the playhouse of lumber and its other construction materials, a small portion of the budget should be allocated to purchasing wood and regular building materials. This cost should not exceed $100 dollars.

Food:

Friday night pizza tends to attract more people to an event. Therefor Pizza should be provided both nights, creating a cost of approximately $240.

Disposable materials:

This budget is intended to account for other miscellaneous material needed to create a production, such as Gels, makeup, costume fabric, props, and should not exceed $150.

Professional Budgets:

It is my intent that Professional Directors volunteer their time, and thus ideally there would be no cost here. However, I know that hiring some people to run workshops may be necessary. I will not include an estimate here, as hiring people will be up to the discretion of both the Producer and the Officers providing the budget.

**V.Producing**:

It is my intent to have this event to be run in the traditional manner, where calls are put out for specific roles, and interested parties put in. I will gladly lend my time to help this production, , however, I believe a better approach would be to put out a call for a producer, as RPI Players productions tend to do. This way another party can be brought onto the team and help keep things running smoothly. In order to maintain the spirit of this event and make sure no ideas are lost in transition I would personally work with this person in the beginning.

If any part of this document is unclear, or if any point needs to be explained or flushed out further, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will gladly work with any new ideas presented or modify a part if sufficient reason is brought to my attention.

Thank you,

Matthew Scorza

MJScorza@gmail.com