

ACMA Theatre Parent Group Meeting 1/6/15

Pride and Prejudice miscellaneous

- Charlie Capps and Patty Bomber will be Stage Managers for Pride and Prejudice. Mr. Sikking has a list of responsibilities for this role, and they will be going through the list to divvy up the tasks. Charlie will be the senior stage manager.
- Kelly will set up the forms for collecting parent data, including the t-shirt size and \$25 cast fee.
- We discussed serving a high-tea in lieu of a cast meal.
- Mr. Sikking is meeting with the professional costumer tomorrow. Jennifer Brad, a teacher at ACMA, will be working with the students and the costumer. Kelly mentioned that BEF has a grant that might be worth pursuing to help fund costumes.
- Lisa Christopherson will research Regency era makeup.
- Natalie Stein has researched hair from the era. She will help design it, and students will help achieve it.
- Ticket pricing will be the same as Coraline.
- We can film and sell DVDs.

Poster creation and distribution

- Megan Wood is working on the poster and will be sharing her examples with Mr. Sikking this week.
- Mr. Sikking feels like the Coraline posters went out too early. He'd like to distribute posters closer to the opening date. We discussed distributing them right around Valentine's Day.

PR – Lisa Cohn

Lisa would like to have photos and posters about 3-4 weeks before opening night to list performance dates on Event Calendars. Lisa would like to work with the students to make the follow up calls.

We need a hook for the PR release. Some suggestions included to link to a charitable group (Friends of the Library), to play up the fact that it is an original adaptation or to tie-in with a theme: literacy, feminist rights, and women's issues. Mr. Sikking suggested that we find an organization that helps women fight for financial and social independence. Two charities mentioned were the Girl Effect (girleffect.org) or Girls, Inc.

Publicity through AM Northwest was discussed. The Christophersons, Lisa Cohn, and Mr. Sikking all have connections. A suggestion was made to do a show up at Pittock Mansion (pictures, too). Lisa Christopherson and Lisa Cohn will work together with PR through AM Northwest.

Dawn will contact the children's librarian at Beaverton City Library to see if we can stage a teaser/reading on 2/14 (about 10-15 minutes long). A suggestion was made that people can donate books to the Friends of the Library as a ticket.

Outreach

There are several outreach efforts to large groups. Mr. Sikking recommends that we encourage them to attend the matinee because it helps to fill the seats and tickets are only \$5.

- High Schools -- Mr. Sikking sends out information to English and drama teachers. He offers tickets for \$5.
- Senior Centers – We've found that we can get more from the senior centers if we contact them earlier and get on their calendars. Michelle will lead this effort.
- Village Home – Lisa shared that this home school organization is interested in attending and would like a discount. She will forward Mr. Sikking's contact information.
- Jane Austen chapter – There's a local chapter that we should contact.

ACMA Auction

The annual auction will be held on February 21st at the Zoo. A suggestion was made to sell packages of tickets to the play. Also, the teaser can be performed as entertainment at the auction.

VIP Reception

Cari will coordinate, and she needs help getting invitations out. A decision was made to host the VIP Reception on the first Friday night performance. A suggestion was made to have some students dress up in costumes and serve a high tea.

24-hour Playwriting Festival

These are coming up on the weekend of January 17th. They will be on the main stage. Tickets are \$10. Emilia is doing the same poster and changing the dates. We just need about 25 posters to put around the building.

Evil Dead: The Musical

Evil Dead: The Musical is Katie McLoughlin's capstone project; it's a campy spoof on horror films. This show is independent of TPG.

Because it has mature content, the age restriction is ninth grade and up. Students will have to show their ID to get in.

Log those volunteer hours!

Kelly will add a link to the website so we can log our hours online.

Bigger Fundraising

Kelly sent out a request to see if anyone was interested in heading up some larger fundraising efforts. Unfortunately, she didn't get a response. However, we discussed several ideas to help fill the gap between the time when Pride and Prejudice closes and the end of the school year:

- Year in Review/Fundraiser -- pull out some old plays, ACMA live sketches, throw in some new stuff. Add in some alumni.
- Dinner Theatre Show
- Back-to-School gathering – on the grass or at a local park

ACMYs

A discussion of the ACMYs followed with Mr. Sikking suggesting that this event be more of a celebration, not a competition. We can provide snacks, etc. They can give silly awards. The seniors could be recognized, or they give the awards to their peers. We'll continue this discussion later.

Supporting all theatre productions

Mr. Sikking requested that the Theatre Parent Group acknowledge ALL theatre productions during the course of the season. We can have something backstage from the TPG group that tells students they are valued and appreciated – whether it's candy, flowers, or something else.

After this discussion, a suggestion was made to give t-shirts to students participating in 24-Hour Playwriting Festival. We'll use the poster design and make 45 shirts for the actors. We will guess on a variety of sizes.

Next Meeting

During the month of January, we'll meet every two weeks. We will revisit this in February.

- Tuesday, January 20th at 6:00 in Mr. Sikking's classroom – A150

--Minutes submitted by Dawn Kimball