

Studying the Teen Theater Troupe Worksheet #1

Your Passions and Interests: A Perfect Start to Program Planning

Interest #1:

Background experience in this interest (personal, professional, or will you contract it out):

One or two sentence description/hook for your program (ex: “Teens! Do you love the magical world of DnD? Join us at the library for an epic campaign over 8 meetings. All experience levels welcome! Led by an experienced librarian and DnD player.”)

Do you see a lack of this kind of program (or a lack of it being offered for free) in your community?

Optional

Interest #2:

Background experience in this interest:

One or two sentence description/hook for your program:

Do you see a lack of this kind of program (or a lack of it being offered for free) in your community?

Worksheet #2

Safe Space Structure in Action

Directions: Circle the safe and inclusive pillars you recognize from the talk

Hi! Welcome! Come on in! I'm Kate and what's your name? Nice to meet you (name)! Let me show you, over here we have name tags if you can please put your name and pronouns like mine (I put she/her), and if you or your parent here can fill out this short emergency contact form, thank you! Okay and then here's the snacks if you want and our little suggestion box with Pringle the Duck, so you can always let me know if you have questions or thoughts... He loves hugs if you want to. You're feeling a little nervous? Oh yeah that is totally normal and I'm here for you, okay. My biggest goals are always for you to feel safe and have fun. Here come sit by me in our circle. Perfect. Okay hi everyone! Welcome to our first day of the theater troupe! My name is Kate, my pronouns are she/her and I'm a librarian and theater teacher. And here are my two amazing teen co-directors Jesse and Eddie, you can also come to them with any questions, and they'll be helping lead our troupe too. Let's go around the circle and if you are comfortable, please share your name, pronouns, and let's do a fun question, would you rather fight a horse sized duck or 50 duck sized horses?

Awesome! Thank you all, we're going to go around again and Jesse, amazing co-director, will you please introduce access needs? Great so for example I'm Kate, she/her and I have ADHD. And please remember you can always tell me or Jesse or Eddie privately after this too. So we'll go around ...thank you for telling me about the fainting. You can absolutely sit down when you need to, and we'll make

sure to have lots of water and breaks. Thank you all. Okay, let's stand up and circle up for some warmups and games.

If you feel comfortable standing up and joining, I'd love to do these together:

Okay so these are the physical and vocal warmups I do that help me act and do auditions. If something is painful for you to do, please do what stretch feels good to you.

(do some physical and verbal)

Awesome, now Eddie, can you show us "No Bananas"

And now here is our troupe chant "Whether the Weather"

Now that we are warmed up, let's do a fun little game called what are you doing? It's great for improv and getting creative and silly. So in this game I pretend to be doing something like brushing my teeth. Then the next person in the circle asks "what are you doing?" then I respond with something totally different like "I'm fighting a bear!" and the person who asked/next in the circle has to act out fighting with a bear. So each time you act out something, say you were doing something different, and the next person has to act out what you SAID you were doing.

That was amazing! Let's take a quick break and then let's sit in our circle to start sharing ideas for what our play can be. We'll write the ideas on these big sticky notes and please remember if you think of something later, you can always email me so we make sure your ideas are heard.

And then we end our day with group story creating and let's close with "Whether the Weather" again. See you next time for more games and to keep building our play!

Worksheet #3

Mapping out your Program

On the lines below, state your big program goal for each meeting and then at least 4 safe space pillars you will use that meeting to encourage the teens to bond, grow, and keep coming back. It is fine to repeat or put new ideas but think about which pillars will help support the goal for the day.

Program goal examples: Paint base layer on canvases, choose DnD characters, agree on basic structure of the play, draw boardgame layouts on paper, etc.

Possible pillars to use: Have snacks and water, have name tags until memorized, establish the importance of correct names and pronouns (given by teen), check in about access needs every meeting (in group or private), show teens you respect them and thank them for their ideas, have a written feedback box, work on making your program a sensory safe space, develop and practice group rituals every meeting

Title of your Program:

3 Main goals you want teens to get from this experience (Ex: Growing in confidence, public speaking, a sense of community, etc.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Meeting 1. Program goal for day _____

Meeting 2. Program goal for day _____

Meeting 3. Program goal for day _____

Final Meeting. Program goal for day _____

How you will measure the success of your program series (quantitative, qualitative, safe space success markers):