

Hope Thomas

Senior Project Proposal

For my senior project, I will be taking a leadership position in the Laboratory Theatre Company, a student-run theatre company. Throughout the semester, I will be drafting different forms, running social media, creating and delegating a team, and overall completing the tasks that the Artistic Director of a company would have. I took on this role back in December and have been hard at work since, trying to book venues and preparing to put on a full production with a team of dedicated and passionate students. I'm hoping to use this time to gain some experience in running a legitimate theatre company and learn what it means to be an artistic director.

Over the next few months, I will be working closely with my team to put on the company's launch production, *Exit the King*. I will be working closely with the director to facilitate auditions and rehearsals, as well as the Technical Director to create a design team for the show. We are working within an extremely limited budget, so I'll also get to gain some experience in creating art without access to a lot of money. In February, my goal is to secure rights to the show and finalize rehearsal spaces and dates. In March, we will hold auditions and begin rehearsals, and then in April we will begin technical and dress rehearsals, closing out the month with the performances. Since the company is so limited on a budget, I hope to plan a fundraising campaign with the other members of the board to secure some more money for productions in the future. By the end of the semester, I hope the name "Laboratory Theatre Company" will become more well known in the department and that we can secure a new board to take over the company, so that they may plan a full-fledged season for next school year. This company is meant to provide students with experience in running an actual theatre company, and my goal is to manufacture enough excitement for students to want to go after that kind of opportunity.

I really hope to work on the business and production side of theatre in the future. I really enjoy marketing and public relations, and I have the proper skills to lead a team. I know that by launching Laboratory Theatre Company, I am gaining some relevant experience in Artistic Direction, which could be impressive on my resume. I know I've already learned so much in my first month in this position, so I'm sure that the next few months are bound to teach me so much more about this field. I have been waiting for an opportunity like this to come around during my collegiate years, so I'm absolutely stoked that I finally get to do something like this (even if it is only for my last semester). Overall, I'm just super excited for this project and I cannot wait to see what the future holds for LTC.