Charles Bowden

Internship Statement

I actually got this internship through a craigslist posting. I read the posting and was a bit apprehensive, you can’t be too careful now a day. I submitted my resume and in the email I wrote what would be considered a cover letter. Then a couple of day later I heard from David, he gave me my first interview. I was so excited and nervous because I found out what the company and that it will be playing at Theater Row which is considered off Broadway. Then I received a call from Nick (Artistic Director) and he like what I said and I got hired.

The date of hire to the first production meeting was a two-day turn around and I received the play the day before. Needless to say I didn’t read the play and was uncomfortable which led to being nervous about attending. I met Nick in the Lobby and we went upstairs to go to the meeting. During that he was filling me in on expectations of the production and me as well as what I was walking into as a company as a whole. The meeting went well and I was able to contribute all around.

The Process in which I went through after the first meeting was abnormal. The director couldn’t make up her mind on which period she wanted the show set in. So a lot of research was done between 1930-1950 ‘s especially in the transitional parts. Then I had to find lighters and learn hot restore them. Which was a challenge. I also dealt with blood for the stage (first time) and communicating with the costumer about what she preferred and other props. Another part I was researching where to buy things in the city.

The most difficult Prop I had was the newspaper. There were two scenes for the prop. The first scene was when it was being cut up. The second scene was when it was being read but couldn’t show signs of being cut. I ended up finding a website that had articles and ads from a paper from the 30’s (did my research to ensure it was ok) creating my own paper. I sent it to the director for approval and when I finally did it was really late and the show went live in two days. I found the place at 14th Street Union Square that could print fast and cheaply but only single sided. For about twenty hours I waxed together two sheets.

What I learned from this experience is practicality. At school they teach us the right way to do all the necessary things, from construction through meeting to keeping our selves organized. I am very grateful for that because it gives me a capability of measurement. Through this process, I truthfully admit, I was not able to do all the standards that the school set. I was able to learn to what important and what I could compromise on. I stumbled a bit through the process but at the end of the day I was able to minimize them.