

Throughout the last few months, I have mentally grown and every area that I could possibly grow in. I was able to put the skills I learned and was taught throughout my major, and practically implement them in a real situation. From drafting and scheduling to actual electrical work, I feel like this project actually put most of my new skills to the test. As the project progressed, I felt prepared to handle the ever growing scope of what it entailed and learn how to adapt on the fly.

The first month of my project included putting the schedule together and creating initial drafts of all the documents I will need practically and having them presentable for this project. After the first month I fell into a good spot with my initial schedule and most things planned out in order to keep everything on track. I wanted to find a good solution that I wouldn't have to pay for and wasn't just a list on excel or word. I wanted to have a schedule that I could easily edit and add stuff to and modify briefly when needed; This would allow me to keep my schedule lightweight and nimble.

After I created the schedule, I had to create the drafts for the plots and begin planning. In order to do this, I needed to know the specifics of the performances from the conductors. There is a total of eight groups, five conductors, over three days. There are many overlapping wants and needs, and it is up to me to put those ideas into a plot that suits everyone. This needs to be accomplished in the space we have available, with the equipment available. Having sat down with each conductor and gone over what they would want. Since there are five conductors, I would need to make sure that the plans merged and satisfied everyone.

Now that I have an idea of what I need to set up, I can make a proper plot. Since I am in an environment where I am working with staff and students who might not know how to read technical drawings, I decided to go with a simple diagram. This allowed me to make the diagram easily able to be understood, as well as to be flexible enough to be a template to use for future events. Since the school hasn't had any performances in the past six or so years. There is little to no staff who knows much about the existing infrastructure or procedure. All that now falls onto my shoulders; voluntarily of course.

Now that I have a schedule and plots, I need to make sure that I have the equipment on hand to fill in the plot, or substitute, replace, or remove the different aspects of the plot, making sure to confirm any changes with all parties. We have a pretty good stock of equipment throughout all the departments in terms of cables, mixers, speakers, lights, computers, and control boards. The main issue I encountered has been the spread-out nature of this equipment. The sounds closet on the stage has a decent amount of equipment, but I would say over half of it is outdated and/or useless. This has been the most complicated component by far.

Overall, coordinating 5 conductors, for 8 musical groups, over 3 days, has been quite an adventure. What I would do differently is to know the state of your equipment; what you have and what works before you ask other people what they want. This would keep the requests in the ballpark of what we would be able to accommodate. Know what you can offer before offering.