

Matthew Ramosa Role of Assistant to the Master Electrician

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Project Introduction

For the entire duration of my academic career so far here at City Tech, my knowledge surrounding lighting and audio within the realm of live entertainment has steadily expanded. Throughout my courses in the aforementioned fields, and my contribution to several productions as part of the Lighting crew in the Technical Production course here, I have discovered and developed multiple disciplines that have led me down the path I am on now. My career goal after I graduate is to ultimately obtain a job as a Lighting Designer, with occupations of Board Operator and Master Electrician in between for productions across the globe. However, in order to accomplish these tasks I would like the opportunity to hone my skills by assuming the role of Assistant to Master Electrician for the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's upcoming production of *Lighscape* starting on the 17th of November.

For my Culmination Project, I plan to work alongside Professor Miguel Valderrama and combine our efforts to design, document, organize, install, run, assess, troubleshoot, and strike a large-scale power distribution system for the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's production of *Lightscape*. Acting as a senior lighting personnel for a high quality production would allow me to develop my skills of operating electrical equipment, communicating with and working alongside a team, as well as improving my organization, documentation and other preparatory skills for high quality productions. In addition, this position would offer me an opportunity to undertake the invaluable, first-hand experience of working with a director and a lighting team to efficiently troubleshoot and ultimately create a show that we all can be very proud of.

Methods

In order to accomplish this extensive project I plan to put my best effort into learning, understanding and developing the necessary skills required to do so. In the design phase, documenting drafts of , surveying the outdoor venue, and inspecting the various amounts of equipment from power generators to cables, will be essential to foreshadow a smooth installation. Most of these documents require specific softwares of which I have learned and worked with so far in my career primarily, Microsoft Office and AutoCad. Primarily, these documents will be used for organizational purposes, such as providing the necessary labels and quantities for the required equipment, or describing the distribution of power across the venue. I have studied and handled power generators in the past, however preparing, installing, and operating a live power system, especially one of this caliber, will most certainly be a new endeavor for me. For any obstacles or topics that cause struggle throughout any phase of the production process, I plan to seek guidance from my advisor and other crew members on call, as well as independently research relevant videos and tutorials on more effective methods to operate live equipment.

Schedule

Weeks 1-3 Brainstorming Phase

Inventory equipment, design possible systems and brainstorm creative design ideas for potential power distribution systems that would sufficiently fulfill the requirements asked of the production.

(Draft Office and AutoCad documents to inventory the lighting equipment that will be utilized for the production) See. Instrument Schedule, Budget & Material Lists, Calendar

Weeks 4-7 Preparation Phase (10/23-10/27) @ 4Wall

Beginning of preparation phase at 4Wall Entertainment in NJ, to organize and inventory all the necessary equipment rentals that will be required for the production. Work alongside Miguel observing and assisting crew personnel in their duties. Understand the large quantity of equipment that goes into preparing a high quality production through the methods of taking pictures, writing down even more notes, and asking even more questions.

(Review production documents and survey the rental site to understand where specific equipment is located, how they're organized/labeled, and how they are handled or operated.)

See. Inventory List, Distribution Schematics

Weeks 8-11 Installation Phase

On site installation at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, working alongside crew personnel to ensure that the power distribution system is working effectively and safely. Troubleshoot any potential problems and resolve them swiftly, as well as assist in any potential crew tasks. Be sure to take notes and pictures on different installation procedures, venue layout, and unfinished light scapes.

Week 12-13 Show Phase

Successfully run the show by communicating with production crew leads, other lighting crew members, and my advisor to troubleshoot any potential surges in our distribution system.

(Develop show reports and note the characteristics of each performance day)

Week 14 Evaluation Phase

After deliberating with my advisor and some department heads to discuss the first week of performances, I compiled all my show reports, notes, pictures, and various other observations, into an encompassing evaluation report, summing up the entirety of the process. After evaluating the results, I will deliberate with my advisor to devise the most appropriate method for presenting.

(Provide Evaluation Report and Research Observations)

Week 15 Presentation Phase

Rehearse presentation multiple times with different sized audiences using different methods of presenting. Work on both Poster Session rapid fire presentations, as well as a longer, fleshed-out presentation using Powerpoint. Consult with advisor for presentation guidance, and with friends and supportive faculty for encouraged support. Present.

(Poster and Powerpoint Presentation Final Revisions)

Budget

Item	Distributor	Purpose	Notes	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
Subscription	AutoDesk	Drafting	Student	1 (annual)	\$1,955.00	\$0.00
Subscription	Microsoft	Drafting	Student	1 (annual)	\$69.99	\$0.00
Transportation	MTA	Commute	One-Way	8	\$2.90	\$23.20
Transportation	NJTransit	Commute	One-Way	4	\$4.50	\$18.00
Food/Drink	Store	Need	Lunch	8	\$15.00	\$120.00

Deliverables

- File type convert software to make .pdf or other file types.
- Microsoft Office Documents for budgeting, scheduling, and weekly progress checks
- Research Field Notes, taken on and off call, including ideas, advice, revisions, etc.
- Photos taken during each day to document progress
- Show Reports and Evaluation Report
- Poster
- Open lab Portfolio

Required Resources

Access to 4Wall Entertainment Facility grounds to observe and assist in event preparation

Access to City Tech's Computer Labs in order to design and draft the required documents

Access to softwares such as AutoCad, and Microsoft Office for drafting and revising

Access to a faculty advisor that can approve schematics, and provide frequent, meaningful guidance