Director’s Book Requirements

*Poster Design*: Design a 8½ x 11 page poster for your production including color, graphics, font, etc. that fits your concept and style of the play.

*Royalty Information and Program Information*: Include the play title, playwright, and publishing house. Add information needed for the program including the characters’ full names, any needed technical staff, setting description, special notes or thanks, etc.

*Director’s Criteria*: What do you look for in a script? What is the predominant element of the script that you chose?

*Subjective Analysis*: What is your initial reaction to the first reading of the script? Look at the three questions we talked about in class.

*Play Analysis*: Write out the following elements of plot structure:

1. Exposition: where, when, who, protagonist, antagonist, relationships, etc.
2. Inciting Incident: what happens to change normal life?
3. Rising Action: conflicts and reactions to obstacles
4. Climax: what does the entire play build to?
5. Falling Action: how is the play resolved?

*Theme and Spine*: What is the play really about? What is the playwright trying to say? The spine is a statement of the play’s message.

*Concept*: What is your vision of the play onstage? How do you see and hear this script in performance? How will you tell the story? Choose a dramatic metaphor (VIZ) for your play.

*Statement of Justification*: Why have you selected this script to direct right now? How would directing this script add to your educational experiences? Share your wishes to direct this play for the student-produced night of one-acts.

*Beat Analysis*: Divide your script up into beats. Mark the beats by drawing a line directly in the script to show where the beat changes. Then assign an objective to each of the major characters in each beat.

*Character Analysis*: For each major character include the following information: super-objective (*the overall activating purpose that carries the character through the play*) and insight into the character’s personality, mannerisms, and style. Write down a spineline for each character (*a line of dialogue that sums up that character completely*). Look to these questions for guidance in discovering the characters:

1. What does the playwright say about the character?
2. What do other characters in the play say about each other?
3. What does the character say about him/herself?

*Technical Considerations*: How will you accomplish your play technically? What kind of budget are you looking at? What support do you need? Where will you get your materials?

*Scenic Design & Floorplan*: floorplan to-scale on the chosen performing space, pictures or sketches of furniture and set dressings

*Costumes*: Written descriptions along with sketches or pictures for each character (at least five for large casts).

*Properties*: List of set props, hand props, set dressings, and any off-stage needs. Include ideas of where you will get your props from.

*Lighting*: Describe the mood, atmosphere, color, light plot, etc. Include a mood picture with a written justification.

*Sound*: Describe the music and special effects needed. Include a “theme music” sample with a written justification (could be used as pre-show, post-show, or underscoring music).

*Rehearsal Schedule*: A working rehearsal schedule according to the timelines determined in class. What is to happen when and with whom?

*Blocking*: Start to imagine how the play will move by writing in basic blocking and staging ideas with a pencil in your script.

Your Director’s Book must cover each and all of the

above items in great detail.

Be bold and imaginative in your planning and preparation!

And don’t procrastinate!