

## **Dexter Drama Club Booster Meeting Minutes**

### **Agenda 4-10-18**

**Present:** Jodi Helmholtz, Chris Calleja, Erin Palmer, Dorothy Flattery, Audrey Bergen, Kaitlin Helmholtz, Cathy Miller, Susie Eschenberg, Nicole Durbin, Beth Brooks, Angie Markel, Samantha Kempf, Julie Arnold, Marti Cotner, Jenna McElroy, Elise Reich, Jennifer Colby, Mollie Kemp

**New York Trip (Erin/Nicole)** - Erin's 11th year of this trip at DHS - she plans it herself to keep the cost down.

- Stardust was too crowded, unfortunately - only hiccup on trip. May try to do pre-fixed menu next year in order to get the kids in.
- Student feedback - 4 shows rather than 3 was very positive, yet tiring.
- Everyone seemed to like *Sleep No More* and the concept of immersive theatre.
- Group felt bigger this year to some students, although it was only 2 kids larger.
- Kids that had gone before liked experiencing different schedule than in the last years.
- Old hotel was preferred, but kids are willing to sacrifice for cost.
- Pulia not quite as authentic as in past years - very busy and more touristy.
- Some kids missed the ice skating at Rockefeller Center and the swing dancing - maybe alternate these with the extra show every other year.
- Split reaction about having too much vs. good amount of time in Times Square.
- Weather was really good overall. Little rain. Phew.
- *Angels in America* was a two-part show - well-received by students.
- From Nicole: felt like a big group, but mostly when moving through subway and crosswalks. Very organized, went well, all were happy.
- Got a great deal on afternoon show to *Hello Dolly*, with Bernadette Peters, who is considered "Broadway Gold".
- Feedback from parents - kids loved *Angels in America* and boys were moved by *Dear Evan Hansen*. Bernadette Peters was amazing.

### **Changes/Suggestions for *Much Ado***

A - Water Bottles - approx cost \$1.05 each - came to \$1.06, ordered 500 - logo is etched on in black. Olivia Kemp will launch concept during tech week and encourage the use of these bottles. Kids should write their names on them.

B - Publicity Crew/Volunteer Positions - should be almost entirely covered by students for this show. Tim and Jodi mapped this out today, and with the exception of supervision backstage and food donations, kids will be in command. Student-run is Erin's philosophy. Kids seem up for the task! Jodi could use some booster with supervision/tasks during tech week.

C - Publicity Crew - Beautification Projects - Dr. Timmis has approved most of the beautification proposals, except for pressure washing (could damage building, which is pretty old). Mulch, painting railings, flowers, planters - some logistics to work out. Dorothy will make a Signup Genius for this. Dr. Timmis was receptive and grateful.

D - Set Build Production - Stage Managers - these students are checking kids in, calling kids who haven't arrived, getting going on to-do lists and assigning kids. They are showing more pride as they see their accomplishments.

### ***Much Ado*** -

A - Overview - Rehearsals seem to be going well and are well-organized, on-task, and on time. Tech week is in two weeks. Champion has purposely planned rehearsals around major school events, like NYC and Ireland.

Some kids are nervous about being off-book by Friday. Shakespeare workshop held by one of Champion's friends. Pushed them in a good way. Kaitlin said it's really coming together and stage managers are excited - doing new daily reports is helpful.

B - Publicity (Julie) - posters are ready and look great. Jodi encouraged that we start getting them out any time now. Sign permit is in to city, and signs are being painted. Julie will talk to Brenda about the downtown banner. Yard signs are ready, dates pop nicely against the dark background. :)

C - Hospitality - Cheryl/Jenna - menu is planned, Jenna has reached out to Busch's. Some changes made to keep cost down and better meet dietary needs. Will try "breakfast for dinner" on one night. Will receive 10 cases of water, a sheet cake, and fruit (we will be vigilant about the fruit needs). Jenna will get a copy of the artwork to go on the sheetcake - Jodi has that. Discussed where to store bins at Copeland; Jenna should transport them there.

D - Concessions - Sam/Kristin started transition - Erin will get cabinet to Copeland via Martin and the truck.

E - Volunteers (Dorothy) - will have fewer sign-ups to post - need sewing help and help for backstage and party.

F - Set Build (Chris) - making progress, but a bit behind. Construction of the gigantic gate is still being considered, and the column needs to be built. Two set builds are left. Jodi is looking for a free-standing mirror, and some irons. Kaitlin will post the need for these items to the Facebook page.

G - Tickets - Presale (Marti) - about half of students sold their pre-sale tickets; Marti will begin working on organizing tickets next week.

H - Swag (Audrey) - *On the Town* DVDs are ready, with the exception of the Blu-Rays - there was a "hot mic" which caused the process to take a little longer this time; orders in for clothing are in and will be delivered tech week.

I - Programs (Cathy) - Tom Grace/Katie Fifelski have volunteered to take over. Cathy will check to see if price will be the same this time.

**Sponsorship Packets for Summer - Booster Expectations** - Cheryl met with Angie to talk about timing and process (Angie will be taking over). Will use *Lion King* as sample program, or *On the Town*. Will aim for June booster meeting to have packets prepared. Goal will be to do full-year sponsorships so that we can have money up-front and not need to scramble as much later in the year. Will likely have each booster try to secure three full-year sponsorships.

**Discuss Calendar for Next Year** (show order, NY trip, Open House, etc.)

- Open House for families/kids at president's house - maybe do it the weekend before Labor Day. Good feedback about this event.
- Fall Show - will include middle schoolers - Erin will get info to Jami Bronson for publication.
- Perhaps change Improv workshop back to earlier in the year so that skill level can be higher - Kaitlin noted there has been a noticeable difference this year, having moved the workshop back - maybe delay musical auditions by a bit to accommodate earlier workshop.
- Erin will go to CPA meeting in May.
- It was suggested that winter could be a big musical (including middle schoolers) - just one show to hire choreographers, and the other two could be straight plays - straight play in fall would cause less time crunch to do a set, which would be on a smaller scale.
- Some folks like 3D in spring - Elise said it would give kids more time to prepare.
- If musical is in the fall, it may attract people to DDC events right off the bat,

**Time to Think about Boosters for Next Year!** Still a few slots open - eventually, set production may be able to go to students.

**Other Ideas:** Jen Colby got in touch with Thalia Schram at Encore and they would be willing to provide the space and potentially the people to run some workshops for DDC at a low cost per student.

**Booster Meetings for 2017-2018 (6:30 start):**

Tuesday, May 15

Tuesday, June 12

Next Meeting - Tuesday, May 15th, 6:30 pm Mill Creek Media Center

**2017-2018**

<b>President</b>	Jodi Helmholtz	<b>Publicity</b>	Julie Arnold
<b>VP</b>	Samantha Kempf	<b>Member at Large</b>	Joyce Oberg
<b>Secretary</b>	Mollie Kemp	<b>Set Production Fall</b>	Juanita Turner
<b>Treasurer (cash withdraw/dep.)</b>	Laura Kelly	<b>Set Production Winter</b>	Angie Markel
<b>Treasurer (PayPal)*</b>	Laura Kelly	<b>Set Production Spring</b>	
<b>Treasurer (acct. reporting)</b>	Michael Baker	<b>Set Build Coord. Fall</b>	Randy Reich
<b>Drama Director*</b>	Erin Palmer	<b>Set Build Coord. Winter</b>	Greg Kemp
<b>Communications Coord.</b>	Jennifer Colby	<b>Set Build Coord. Spring</b>	Chris Calleja
<b>Graphic Design Coord.</b>	unfilled	<b>Sponsorships Coord. (Sales)</b>	Erica Ward
<b>Hospitality - Concessions</b>	Samantha Kempf	<b>Sponsor Assist (Post-Sales)</b>	Cheryl Beauregard
<b>Hospitality - Green Room</b>	Tammy Reich	<b>SWAG Coord.</b>	Audrey Bergen
<b>Hospitality - Tech Weekend</b>	Cheryl Beauregard	<b>Technical Coord.</b>	Michael Baker
<b>Photography</b>	Randy Reich	<b>Thespian Society</b>	Nicole Durbin
<b>Programs</b>	Cathy Miller	<b>Tickets Sales Coord.</b>	Marti Cotner
<b>Website Coordinator</b>	Angie Markel	<b>Volunteer Coord.</b>	Dorthy Flattery
<b>Member at Large</b>	Beth Brooks	<b>Member at Large</b>	

**2018-2019**

<b>President</b>	Jodi Helmholtz	<b>Publicity</b>	Julie Arnold
<b>VP</b>	Laura Kelly	<b>Set Production Fall</b>	

<b>Secretary</b>		<b>Set Production Winter</b>	
<b>Treasurer (acct reporting)</b>	Michael Baker	<b>Set Production Spring</b>	
<b>Drama Director</b>	Erin Palmer	<b>Set Build Coord. Fall</b>	
<b>Drama Director*</b>	Erin Palmer	<b>Set Build Coord. Winter</b>	
<b>Communications Coord.</b>	Jennifer Colby	<b>Set Build Coord. Spring</b>	Chris Calleja
<b>Graphic Design Coord.</b>	Martin Ruhlig	<b>Sponsorships Coord. (Sales)</b>	Erica Ward
<b>Hospitality - Concessions</b>	Kristin Tomczak	<b>Sponsor Assist (Post-Sales)</b>	Angie Markel
<b>Hospitality - Green Room</b>	Jenna McElroy	<b>SWAG Coord.</b>	Audrey Bergen
<b>Hospitality - Tech Weekend</b>	Beth Brooks	<b>Technical Coord.</b>	Michael Baker
<b>Photography</b>	Randy Reich	<b>Thespian Society</b>	Nicole Durbin
<b>Programs</b>	Tom Grace?	<b>Tickets Sales Coord.</b>	Marti Cotner
<b>Website Coordinator</b>	Angie Markel	<b>Volunteer Coord.</b>	Dorothy Flattery
<b>Member at Large</b>	Samantha Kempf		