

STATESMEN THEATRE BOOSTER MEETING 03/11/2021

Booster Board

President – Trish VanStory, absent due to surgery

Vice President - Betsy Moran

Treasurer - Rachel Rothstein

Secretary - Donna Kellermann

Director of the Theatre Department - Bernie DeLeo

*Everyone encouraged to follow Statesmen Theatre on Facebook

(<https://www.facebook.com/statesmentheatre/>) Instagram: @statesmentheatre and Twitter: @GCMTheatre and to share our show info with others.

Welcome Remarks

Betsy Moran made brief intro

Theatre Director Report

- Mr. DeLeo shared the excitement of being back together with the students. It's very different than regular stage productions. More like working on a movie, which is also a good experience for the students.
- It's pretty tricky to manage online and virtual teaching while also working on the production but balancing it all is worth it as everyone has missed theatre and even brief in person collaborations.
- **Machinal** – it's been a lot of work to edit, more than we thought so it's been difficult to finalize the last episode. We've had to engage some extra students, so the work is shared. It was too much for one person to manage with schoolwork. Hoping to get it out within the next two weeks and hoping everyone will listen to all 3 episodes at one time.
- **VHSL** we are still hosting but it was too much for to do without another director. So Ms. Tate is now in charge of that production. She is a former theatre director and was very excited to take it on. Mr D proposed they do something original to avoid paying royalty fees. Ms Tate and 5 underclassmen are busy working on this project which is specifically about what it is like to be female or non-binary in a man's world. They have 3 weeks to put it together. They will have a dress rehearsal ready before spring break (hopefully) and then it has to be uploaded to the judges by April 11th. It is unclear whether anyone beyond the judges will be able to watch it.
- **Working** – Its going very well, expectation is that the solo pieces will be done before spring break. Following that, it will be time to do the ensemble numbers. That should take most of April. The recorded tracks have made things much easier. No need to coordinate live band, etc. and they can sing to the exact track they will be using.

Because there are no leading roles it is very collaborative for more people. In addition, because it is a series of independent stories woven together, it was ideal choice for assembling small groups of people and distributing performing time to many students.

- **Volunteers** don't need a lot right now but will need more as show gets closer (will need someone to host a zoom watch party)
- **Show Dates** – Launch on Friday, May 14th, 15th. May 21 and 22 at 8 pm.

Promotions

- The company that owns the royalties publishes the show. The show is published exactly on time and you have to pay them to get the virtual link. The show doesn't linger around afterwards. Bernie will clarify that the show starts and ends and there is or isn't wiggle room. It's NOT a YouTube thing where it will be "up" for an extended period.
- Programs will likely be published as opposed to having an online tribute slide show, need to clarify more details here and follow up on volunteers
- As far as the seniors, they usually each give a speech before their last show – will do another way likely a zoom call or if we can arrange a cast only, socially distanced watch party, maybe there.
- Watch party possibilities were discussed. Can they gather in the school parking lot to watch? Will have to check with Joe Schwarm. Bernie has to contact the purveyors (MTI) to make sure the dates of May 14, 15 and 21, 22 are AOK before we can check with Joe. Might have a live party outside elsewhere if not? Could maybe have a big screen and if we could figure out the place and presentation. The cast and crew count is around 40.

Scholarships

- Kelly Glazier is chair of the scholarship committee this year. She will need date of end of year party because that is where the scholarships are presented.

Secretary/Promotions

- Promotions for Working will include distribution of short video clips via tik tok, and social media. Local Newspapers, the school top of the 4th period announcements and screen displays. Posters, etc. Using video clips up to 30 seconds is allowed for this show which will be very helpful. Doing a banner is a possibility but it would be necessary to make it clear that this performance isn't happening at the school.

Treasurers Report

- Everything looks good for now. Not much has changed.

Next meeting will be right after spring break, April 15th.