

Name

Write about a specific live event or ritual that you have attended within the past year. How and why did theater and performance contribute to the purpose and meaning of this event?

Please be specific about what the event: what it is and when it took place. (e.g., "My Aunt Jenny's wedding in November of 2022....") Please don't choose a theater performance.

Answer with personal specifics and thoughtful reflection in approximately 300-400 words, while referencing some material from class.

A live event I attended in the past year was a UMASS hockey game during the hockey season, I attended a few so I cannot pick out a specific one. To me an event like this is almost a 1:1 comparison with theater. Everything down to even the referees is very theatrical. From the very moment you walk into the

how? Mullins Center, I am reminded of theater. The first step to watching the game is checking the schedule, which is just like checking when there is a play in theater. The next step is buying tickets, which is obviously the same, just for students our ticket is our U-Cards. After that you walk into the big stadium full of spectators. As people get ready for the game the crew of the stadium shut the lights off to get the crowd riled up and the referees come out. The referees always follow the same routine and skate around the rink, checking the ice and looking at the nets, making sure the game runs correctly. Then the big show starts. The players come out while the lights are flashing, and the crowd gets hyped. When they first start the game each player has their own defined role, and even though they don't have scripts they follow the same idea each time, get goals and prevent the other team from getting goals. The players have

is this similar different?

good

Nice

conflicts with other players and the crowd loves watching. Each hockey game tells its own story that you can never guess the conclusion until the very end. It reminds me of a big improv group facing each other. In each game you need to improvise because you can't practice for every single occurrence and the ones that they have, it's almost scripted. Behind the players you don't see the coach, who is giving the players notes on what they should do. So, all in all, a hockey game to me is almost exactly like a theater performance. It is a spectator sport, there are actors, directors and stage crew all working together to make the game run smoothly.

Good. You've identified some great comparisons between theatre and stadium sports. But how does this lens inform your understanding of ritual? What from the class materials/exercises helped you make this connection? What did you learn?

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4/10/50