O’Dell Tucker

Professor Olivia Trees

THE 250

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Decision Height Crew Response

If you came up to me two years ago and told me that I would eventually become a theatre kid, I’d probably give you a strange look and wonder if you’ve got the wrong guy. It was not that I hated theatre; far from it, in fact. It was just that my understanding of the medium was near non-existent, and my lackluster performance in the costume shop didn’t help my perception. As a result, the idea of spending an entire week working on a play that (in my opinion) had a mediocre script did not excite me. I expected this to be the part of the class that I hated the most, but after going through three rehearsals and five shows, I’m stunned that I enjoyed my time in the wardrobe crew as much as I did.

Like I said before, I was not very confident about how helpful I could be as a wardrobe crew member, so I shocked when you assigned me, of all people the to the actress playing the main character of the play. Of course, none of stuff I was assigned ended up being too difficult, but I was worried that if I messed up, it would be the most visible, since she’s in almost every scene. Nonetheless, aside from a few early hiccups, I managed to fulfil my duties and got quite efficient at it. As my confidence grew, I began going out of my way to take on more jobs. You’d think that I would be annoyed by that, but no! Instead, I leaned into it almost like I was challenging myself to see how much I could do single handedly, and by the end of the show I was doing the jobs of two people!

Obviously, menial tasks like moving clothes and filling out checklists are only half of the wardrobe experience. I was already used to doing stuff like that from my work experience. The part that really took me out of my comfort zone was the social/communication aspect of the job. Normally, I’m a very unforthcoming person, so I find it difficult to approach unfamiliar people depressingly often. The cast being comprised of nothing, but girls only made me more awkward, because I knew that I would have to be around them while they were undressing half the time. That’s why I was so nervous when entering the dressing rooms, even after knocking. However, as time passed, I loosened up and it got easier to communicate with both the actresses and my crewmates, so much so that I began going around talking with everyone to make sure things were getting done. I won’t lie, breaking out of my shell, even for a brief time like that, felt liberating!

To wrap things up, working on *Decision Height* in the wardrobe crew has been a proven to be a surprisingly rewarding experience because it forced me to get out of my comfort zone and try things that I would have completely avoided otherwise. Particularly, I now have an appreciation for the production aspect of theatre and all the hard work that goes into making productions like these happen. While I still can’t see myself becoming a full-blown theatre kid, I’ll probably try to find the time to come see more plays in the future. The premise of *Postmortem* has me particularly excited, and hopefully it will be a chance to come and say “hi” to everyone. Overall, my time on the Wardrobe crew was a rather positive one, and it helped me grow as a person in more ways than one.