



Application for Post of EVENTS DEPARTMENT COORDINATOR 2018



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Contact No: 9976877692	Club: Thespian Club

1. What is your vision for the Thespian Club?

I want the Thespian club to be popular in Chennai, and to have more participation from insti students.

2. What were the positives and drawbacks of this vertical last year? Suggest solutions for the drawbacks. Discuss both Saarang and LitSoc.

Saarang:

Dramatics:

The event had some really good plays. Every team was allotted an ample amount of time to put up their piece. We even had time for rehearsals, in spite of the increased participation. The venue was CLT and so, the sound was also good. The lights were also properly installed and were put to good use by all teams.

There was a scheduling problem, delaying the entire schedule. One of the judges was picked up late. Some teams backed out or didn't show up, in an unprofessional manner. The entry door in CLT was to be locked but there was constant knocking leading to minor disturbances. The audience was majorly participants and Christ univ. people.

We should plan the entire thing beforehand, including deciding timings and slots (can be done as we receive applications), and should communicate the same to the teams and judges. Some teams didn't use the lighting; we can intimate them on the facilities that will be available, including the lights, backstage, and the props. As this is the signature event of the Thespian club, there should be better publicity for this event.

Monoacting:

Monoacting saw good participation, of about 30-40 participants. The performances were good. The venue selected had a good stage for the event.

The Participation could have been better (as this was a solo event), many of our participants were from Christ university. Some participants had trouble locating the venue. The venue was also not open on time.

We can make spot registration also possible. We can advertise our event while it's going on; say carnivool stage, which coupled with on-spot registration, can improve our participation as it is a solo event. We can provide directions to the venue on the saarang app & also paste posters directing people to our venue.

Vernacular Monoacting:

This was a First-time event. The venue was the same as Monoacting. The performances were very good. The event has a lot of potential for inviting talent from a much wider group, i.e., the local crowd.

We can contact a lot of new colleges to perform in local languages if they are uncomfortable in English. The judge should be well versed in Indian languages esp. tamil and hindi.

Dial-a-Director:

The event had good participation for a new event. The event was aimed at the demographic which hadn't done serious dramatics before and did reach said demographic to some extent. The winner was someone who only had experience with short films, and there were participants who only just learned what a director was. The event went off pretty seamlessly; started mostly on time and ran smoothly after that.

The team is given 48 hours of preparation time. This year, we sent out emails to all the team leaders a little erratically. Additionally some teams got multiple due to registering multiple times. We also gave some on-spot registrations topics by word of mouth only. The model is not conducive to brilliant performances.

The preparation time can be more. The number of actors can also be flexible, for inviting better performances. We should be done with on-spot registrations for this event as directing a play is bound to take some time.

Street Plays:

This year saw many High quality performances. Better participation than the previous year – 7 versus 5 teams of the previous year. The new venue – in front of the library – worked out very well. There was a very good crowd to watch the event, since it was just off the central road of Saarang.

The participation is still not good enough for a Saarang event. Many participants are opposed to the idea of a theme.

We can have a shifting venue (depending on crowd and vehicle traffic). The theme can be broader or can be a suggestion to teams, with the mention that the play should be on similar themes. This will invite more participation; the suggestion of theme will be taken up by at least some of the teams, giving the event flavor.

Litsoc:

Monoacting:

The event saw very good performance and participation with all the hostels participating.

There was only one judge. The venue was a HSB classroom with a very small stage, no sound system, which was cluttered. Additionally volumes had to be kept low to ensure that a nearby class was not disturbed.

We can conduct the event outdoors with a good sound system. This will also serve as publicity for the club. There will be no clutter and we'll also have more audience.

Dial-a-Director:

This was a new event, and showed a decent grasp of the event and decent participation for a first time event. We were able to implement the usage of specific props from the thespian inventory in the performances.

The event started late, because one of the judges came an hour late; the other one was distinctly irritated by the time the event started. The first performing team also delayed the event. The performances were not deemed to be of good quality.

As it was a first time event, we can hope that the performances will improve in the following years.

Dramatics:

The plays put up were of very good quality.

Only five hostels put up plays. LitSoc Dramatics got pushed to the end of the semester; hence it was seen as too much effort to put in, for the hostel points. The judge cancelled last minute; another judge was arranged for, last minute, however.

The event should be moved up in the calendar.

P.s: We should work professionally to avoid the issues caused because of judges.

3.Explain all the events that you think should be held next year, for Saarang. Suggest at least one new event.

Dramatics:

The signature event of the Thespian Club: we see increasing participation. Brilliant plays, the classics, this has it all.

Monoacting:

The best solo event, we get some very good performances from this event.

Vernacular Monoacting:

This event attracts the local crowd, and has a large potential for uncovering talent.

Street Plays:

The social message of saarang is brought out in this event and sees brilliant performances in both local languages and English.

Suggestions for new events:

We can have an on-spot event wherein we give teams (not more than 3) a piece to perform and the team has to perform it twice with the same script overall but with subtle changes to bring out a different meaning or a perspective.

We should have an event for comic relief like Mad ads in Saarang.

4. Suggest a few viable sponsorship avenues (both kind and cash) for this vertical.

There are sponsorship deals from theatre groups (like Crea Shakti,Evam etc..) and cash deals from corporate companies. The latter kind of deals is usually made by the spons team. However, we can look at small corporate. Kind deals are very useful, as we get judges and exciting prizes for participants. The association will also help create a brand image the eyes of students: both insti and outside. Kind deals also help students get more exposure to the theatre outside. This is better than monetary deals.

We can look at the sponsors of other colleges to find out corporate who have shown interest in theatre.

Popular theatre groups in the city like Masquerade, Koothu-p-pattarai, The Madras Players, Mactrics can be contacted for kind deals as alternates for our major sponsors (which was Crea Shakthi for Saarang-2016 and Saarang-2017). Small theatre groups (like theatre y) and independent artists (like Chennai Drama House) can also be contacted for kind deals (for judges, workshops, prizes). There exist a lot of theatre groups (like yours truly theatre, live the dream) and enthusiasts based in Bangalore. We can contact them for deals.

We can contact alumni who have shown interest in theatre. They can point us in the right direction for sponsorships, and will also enjoy the plays put up at Saarang. We can invite them to Saarang. Interactions with our alumni who enjoy theatre will be delightful.

We can try to associate ourselves with lit-fests (conducted by The Hindu, The Climber, etc..) These events see a large footfall and will also help in publicity.

For cash deals, we can approach small corporate companies (we can get a list from the sponsorship team) whose deals were not taken by the Saarang sponsorship team because of less money and we can offer to place posters/placards for advertisement. We can also offer product placement in our play if that's possible without affecting the play.

5. Discuss your plans to publicize Thespian events for Saarang.

We collaborate with the publicity team for garnering publicity for our events.

Our online presence should be substantiated. This will have a much better reach than any other means. We should collaborate with media club for photos and the design team for better posters, gifs, etc., There should be regular updates on our facebook page. If done right, this can be the predominant mode of publicity.

We can do google and facebook ads, as they can target their ads towards a specific interest group.

Excerpts from the previous years' events can be made into a video giving a taste of the drama at saarang.

We should build a database of contact points of various colleges with their equivalent of culsec and thespian club. They can be contacted before saarang to perform.

We should also build a list of people interested in our club. (a mailing list ,maybe) To whom we send out updates regarding saarang, so that they may come to watch the events or even participate.

We can invite local magazines and newspapers to do articles on saarang. (Preferably vernacular)

Milan:

Milan can also be experimented with next year. We can begin with a few cities, close by, with interesting short events, designed to give a flavor of drama.

The events should be short, intriguing, and should make the audience talk about it (like Mad ads), making them want witness the spectacle at saarang. Participation with local languages should be encouraged.

Colleges like Loyola, MCC, stella maris , ethiraj can bring in brilliant performances. We should invite all these and more such colleges. A invitation sent out professionally, will get us more participation, and brilliant performances.

6. Talk about the events (both club and LitSoc) that you would like to hold as a Coordinator. Suggest at least one new event for each.

Club:

I would like to put up plays in addition to stagecoach (possibly, collaborating with a theatre company). Events like Scenes from a Hat, Act-outs and loose characters can be held early on in the odd semester to give freshies a taste for theatre. Workshops on directing and acting should be conducted.

I suggest conducting an event where a real life incident (of the participant's choice) should be acted out by them. Points can be awarded for the surrealistic nature and for bringing out social issues in a subtle manner.

Litsoc:

Drams can be conducted early on in the even semester to witness more participation. Monoacting can be conducted at a different venue. Dial-a-Director can be done by asking the participants to film the play on cam so that points can be awarded based on the elements of good direction without giving marks for the prowess of the actors.

A competitive story-telling event can be conducted. Points can be awarded for the use of dramatic elements in story-telling and for keeping it interesting for the audience.

Another competitive event can be asking participants (solo event) to deliver a ten-minute performance. Using off-stage focus, competitors convey emotion and environment focusing on the relationships and interactions between the characters. No props or costumes are to be used. Performances can also include an introduction written by the students to contextualize the performance. Points can be awarded for the conveying of proper emotions and the usage of performance techniques.

7. Use this question to mention any points or initiatives that do not fall under the purview of any of the previous questions.

The club members can have informal reading sessions to talk about plays, drama films and acting without any discussions on organizing future events or plans for organizing events.

8. What makes you think that you are suitable for this position? Give credentials and References.

a. I was a volunteer for thespian club in Saarang-2017.

References: Ramya (9791019233)

b. I was a part of the play put up during freshie night.

References: Gopesh(9757241920)

c. I was a part of the production team for our play in Saarang dramatics.

References: Atul Shreyas(7893667584)

Additionally, I am part of a CFI project where we are trying to build a fully-automated farming bot. References: Adarsh(9880929180), Chirag(7200467232)
