## Drama co-production

This is one of the larger undertakings of the year, as it involves writing, casting, directing, shooting, and editing a short film.

## 1.- Screenplay

The first unit involves the writing of a screenplay. Each group will consist of 2-4 members. Each group member must write their own screenplay, and is responsible for having it reviewed by classmates for re-working, as well as pitching it to the group for
final selection.
This screenplay must incorporate the following:

- Maximum of 4 main characters, each of whom will have a character description created for subsequent casting
- Ideally the production will run 4-6 minutes in length
- The screenplay must follow standard conventions for writing (Cues included in the screenplay). It should communicate to the D.P., director, and other crew what the writer hopes to see realized.
- This will be handed in as a .Pdf in a conventional format for final marking after it has been reworked by classmates.


## RUBRIC

|  | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Screenplay <br> follows <br> standard <br> conventions <br> (weight x 1.0) | Does not make <br> proper use of <br> scenes, actions, <br> dialogue, or <br> character <br> conventions. <br> Difficult to follow | Rarely makes <br> proper use of <br> scenes, actions, <br> dialogue, or <br> character <br> headers. | Often makes <br> proper use of <br> scenes, actions, <br> dialogue, or <br> character <br> conventions. | Always makes <br> proper use of <br> scenes, actions, <br> dialogue, or <br> character <br> conventions. |
| Dialogue <br> $\mathbf{( x 1 . 0 ) ~}$ | Inappropriate or <br> unfitting dialogue <br> impedes story. | Inappropriate or <br> unfitting dialogue <br> detracts from <br> overall story | Dialogue <br> complements <br> and carries <br> overall story. | Dialogue drives <br> story forward. |
| Feasibility <br> $\mathbf{( x 1 . 0 ) ~}$ | Majority of film <br> unlikely to be <br> produced due to <br> complexity of <br> scenes, <br> characters, or <br> actions | Large portions of <br> film unlikely to be <br> produced due to <br> complexity of <br> scenes, <br> characters, or <br> actions | Few portions of <br> film unlikely to be <br> produced due to <br> complexity of <br> scenes, <br> characters, or <br> actions | Film likely to be <br> produced due to <br> feasibility of <br> scenes, <br> characters, or <br> actions |
| Story <br> $\mathbf{( x 1 . 0 ) ~}$ | Plot is non- <br> existent | Plot is present <br> but does not <br> sustain reader's <br> attention/ <br> interest. <br> Implausible or <br> contrived ending | Plot holds <br> reader's <br> attention/ <br> interest. <br> Plausible <br> resolution or <br> continuity | Screenplay has <br> plot with <br> intelligent <br> resolution and <br> character <br> development (or <br> not!) |

## 2. Casting and auditioning procedure and rubric

You will need to have at least 3 actors audition for each one of your parts.
Casting happens after you complete your character breakdown sheets, and put out a call for actors to audition.

Potential candidates will be given a character breakdown to fill out. They will practice the dialogue on the character breakdown in preparation for the audition.

You may have potential actors fill out a sheet with their contact information on it and contact them with the location and time of the audition, or you may have it posted when they pick up their character breakdowns.

On the day of the auditions, you will need at least two members of your crew and a private, quiet location.

Ideally you will have a waiting room with a receptionist to greet your actors and create a que.

Your audition space should be set up with the casting director behind a table to greet the actor, and a chair or stool for the actor. This will be placed app. 6ft from the table.

Ideally, you will have an assistant who acts as both camera operator and if the actor is speaking dialogue, will be the second character in the dialogue.

Before recording, the casting director will introduce themselves and their assistant. They will then begin recording, and have the actor speak towards the camera. Before reading their part, the actor will introduce themselves and say their name, and what character they are auditioning for.

When finished, the camera will be cut, and actors will submit their contact info, along with a headshot, to the casting director.

In a real world situation, you would likely contact suitable actors for a "callback", where you see the actor perform again before making your final selection for the character.

You must have at least 3 casting videos for each character in your production. I will be asking for the casting videos for ONE of the characters in your screenplay.

Rubric:

|  | 1 | 2 | 4 | Total |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Casting call <br> organization <br> (Excellent <br> communication <br> to student body <br> for maximum <br> actor turnout) <br> X 1.0 | Does not <br> approach <br> expectations | Approaches <br> expectations | Meets <br> expectations | Exceeds <br> expectations |
| Protocol <br> (Proper actor <br> introduction, <br> what role <br> auditioning for, <br> etc.) <br> X 5 | Does not <br> approach <br> expectations | Approaches <br> expectations | Meets <br> expectations | Exceeds <br> expectations |
| Correct number <br> of auditions (at <br> least 3) <br> X.5 | Does not <br> approach <br> expectations | Approaches <br> expectations | Meets <br> expectations | Exceeds <br> expectations |
| Organization <br> (Corresponding <br> contact info., <br> headshot, etc.) <br> X 1.0 | Does not <br> approach <br> expectations | Approaches <br> expectations | Meets <br> expectations | Expeeds <br> expectations |
| Video <br> (Sound quality, <br> tripod use, <br> edited to <br> length) <br> X.5 | Does not <br> approach <br> expectations | Approaches <br> expectations | Meets <br> expectations | Exceeds <br> expectations |
| Audition space <br> (clutter free, <br> minimal <br> ambient noise, <br> correctly set <br> up) <br> X.5 | Does not <br> approach <br> expectations | Approaches <br> expectations | Meets <br> expectations | Exceeds <br> expectations |
| $/ 4$ |  |  |  |  |

