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| **Constant Contact Survey Results**  **Survey Name:** IHSTF 2011 Exhibitor Survey  **Response Status:** Partial & Completed  **Filter:** None  Jan 21, 2011 9:08:21 PM | |
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| **1. Please enter the information indicated below, should we need to contact you about your answers.  Please provide your name, "Company Name", and your email address: - Responses** | |
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| **2. How easy did you find the entire registration process? - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Very easy. Friendly folks! |
|  | Clearer instructions as to the limit on number of exhibitors per organization would be helpful. |
|  | Kathy complained mightily about the difficulties of registerring on line. |
|  | Upon arrival, BSU was not permitted to register as our payment had been lost and information regarding our participation at the IHSTF was not communicated to the people at the registration desk. Further, our representatives arrived seperately and there was confusion as to where out packet information was located. Finally, it would be helpful if the day parking passes were available for purchase immediately upon checking in. |
|  | I appreciate that the registration can be done on-line. |
|  | Love the online registration - FANTASTIC |
| **3. Was your booth easy to locate? - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Tables along the theatre side of the lobby were lined up pretty tight. Need to open this up a bit so we can walk around individual tables. |
|  | VERY easy and clear. |
|  | The map was helpful as were the festival staff. |
|  | Good maps and good layout |
|  | It took me a second to get orientation of the Great Hall layout |
| **4. If you requested additional services, were these provided to you?  (i.e.: electricity, extra space, etc.) - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | We requested two 20 Amp. Circuits and received one circuit that was barely 15 Amps. |
|  | Didn't need anything else. |
|  | I don't think we requested any additional services. |
|  | $50 for a 15' Orange cord was a ripoff |
|  | Extra space was not an option when registering, but would be extremely helpful in the future. |
|  | I was able to find the plugs but was concerned that they were tied in with the others along that same wall. As I needed 2 20 Amp circuits I would have been happier if I had a contact from the venue to ask. |
|  | Electricity was at the table and even an extension cord for us to use. We couldn't use the extension cord though because it was only a two prong version. In the future they need to be 3 prong. It's great that these were provided for us. |
| **5. If you are a college or university, were you able to reach students who attended auditions or tech interviews? - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Given the resources we put into being at the festival, there needs to be a better way to meet with students. Split auditions between Fri and Sat, or include Thur night. We must be able to talk to students!We usuually talk to 40 - 50 students, this year it was only 25. Also, due to the length of the All State Show (3 hours). |
|  | The time is very tight. Most of the kids we "called back" did not get to the table. |
|  | We are not a college or university -- |
|  | I answer Yes provisionally. It appears that they were notified that they had been called back, though we did not get to see all of them at the booth. |
|  | Called back 80 auditionees. Only 30 came back. There is not enough time at the festival to audition let alone callback/interview a percentage of the 205 auditionees.  Also a number of the students did not even want to major in theater. Is there a way to know this in future? |
|  | I am my own department and cannot attend both auditions and tech interviews. Last year, the tech interview binder was held for me. However, this year, the binder was given to someone else, so I was left without the information needed to contact potential tech students. |
|  | It would be extremely helpful to alert schools how important it is to have enough representatives that one of them can always be at the table while the others are in auditions/tech interviews. It would also be helpful to have a e-mail address as part of the requirments for student reumes. While I was told you have eliminated photos based on past surveys, I personally find them vital in recalling and sharing information on participants. |
|  | I want to qualify my "no" answer to this question. We were able to meet a few of the students who did performance auditions--about 10 out of the 40 we called-back. The length of the auditions and full festival schedule make it difficult to connect with students for a call back interview. It's a bit easier to meet the design/tech students. |
|  | We didn't do the auditions/interviews. |
|  | We were unaware that the auditions and design/tech interviews were at the same time. Since only one person from our department attended we were unable to view the auditions. |
| **6. May we contact you regarding future donations to the Festival?  - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Please contact jnesbitt@a-bphoto.com regarding any requests for donations. |
|  | We have enough budget to attend. |
|  | I have already initiated the conversation with Dimetrius (sp?) regarding the LightLab space(s) and programming for next year. The other manufacturers/venders are all interested in continuing to develop this program. |
|  | There are so many variables to what we can and can not do for the festival and ITA. Please feel free to contact us as you have need and we will see what can be done. |
|  | I'll be happy to help in anyway that I can. |
| **8. If you are a member of the Illinois Theatre Association, what value does you membership provide? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Just started, not sure yet - |
|  | Attendance at auditions for Illinoisfest |
|  | Connections to colleagues and the goings-on in the state. Annual meetings |
|  | Connection to the large network of Illinois High Schools! |
|  | Networking and access to the membership. |
|  | Great networking and great offerings for us corporate members. |
|  | Our travel coordinator would have the answer for that questions, but obviously being able to find great students from Illinois. |
| **10. Would you be interested in being included in a "Stamp Sheet" at next year's Festival?  (eg: students must get exhibitor signatures or stamp on a card in order to be eligible for special prizes?) - Other responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | no opinion |
|  | Maybe |
| **10. Would you be interested in being included in a "Stamp Sheet" at next year's Festival?  (eg: students must get exhibitor signatures or stamp on a card in order to be eligible for special prizes?) - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | This should be seniors only. We get swamped with students between the shows and to have all students coming to the college tables would be disasterous. Our conversations need to be meaningful, not just a stamp. |
|  | I would instead find incentives for those students who audition/interview to visit the schools that have interest in them. Even if this is a courtesy visit to say I'm not interested in your particular program. |
|  | As a exibitor who could not be at his booth every minute it would be tough to ensure that people who stopped by would get their stamp. |
|  | Is this a way to encourage students to visit exhibits? It's an interesting idea. Our goal of course is to meet students who are genuinely interested in choosing a university theatre program. My concern would be that the stamp sheet might generate activity that distracts from the already limited time available to talk with the students we called-back. |
|  | This would be great to get the kids to visit more of the exhibit tables. I think you are dealing with the problem I raise in question 11 with this effort. |
|  | If the student is not interested on their own then I would not want ot force them to visit. |
| **11. Even after 36 Festivals, the Planning Committee still strives for improvement.  In your opinion, what changes could be made to make future Festivals even more beneficial for all involved? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | The exhibit services seemed more expensive and of lesser quality than in previos years. I was very disappointed in that, although the Festival in general was very worthwhile for us, as always. |
|  | Re-assess the audition schedule so we have more time to talk to seniors. Also, you need a new pianist. You need someone who knows the repertoire, can sight read better, and most of all you need someone who know how to bring the singer in on key. I know...I did this professionally for years. Please look into this, it is students' futures. |
|  | The audition sessions are BRUTAL. 10 hours with just a half an hour break is really too much for most of us. I wish there could be some type of screening process. Too many of these kids are unprepared for a college audition and appear to not have been coached. Also, I wish we could come up with another term than "callbacks". |
|  | I think one of the performances should be allowed to be videotaped and photographed. Could even be of an improv performance but give great publicity to the event, via social networks. |
|  | Detailed parking instructions a week in advance would be helpful. We need info on where to park to load/unload as well as where to park during the event. |
|  | retool the audition and tech interview process to help better match students to colleges/universities.    The program said auditions would be over by 5pm and instead went to 6pm. Knowing this ahead of time would help us to know how to staff our booth. Do not schedule workshops for those doing tech interviews so they overlap. |
|  | At ISU there was no problem with parking, but this year I ended up with a parking ticket for $10 even though I paid $15 for a pass. The meters were not labeled clearly and the instructions were not very clear either. Who would think that meters immediately outside of the building would not belong to the university? I was treated rudely when I a |
|  | I fully support going green! The resumes of the auditioning actors could be put on line rather than in binders. Would save time, money and trees! |
|  | I understand that all of the teachers are volunteers and are to be commended for the extraordinary job that they do to mount the Festival but starting the planning earlier would help. To that end we have already started on next year's programming. |
|  | Separate the Sponsors Reception from the kids party. |
|  | The same person should organize the festival for at least two years in a row so a standard for each location can be achieved. Exterior signage needs to clearer so that newcomers driving to the location can park and enter the festival through the appropiate doors to the main lobby. |
|  | Provide GPA & ACT/SAT scores for students who audition/interview. It would help to have some indication of their interest(s)as well. The 10 hour audition (though well run)is grueling and leaves little time to meet students. Considered capping the numbers. Perhaps a minimum GPA threshold to qualify for program--like the festival in Lincoln. |
|  | Auditions:  This year, they were the best run -- and most efficient. Thank you.    Require TWO pieces: either song/monologue or two monologues in the two minutes. One monologue does not tell us much, and students often pick pieces that are more for speech team, than for acting...i.e. they should pick pieces from plays. |
|  | I have no idea how you would do this, but it seems as though the kids don't have enough time to do everything.duh) Visiting the exibits seems to be low on their list of things to do. I'm sure this isn't possible but could there be any designated time specifically to allow the kids to visit the exhibits? |
|  | Love it! Great recruitment opportunity for us. |
|  | If more than one school will be interviewing a given design/tech candidate at the same time, there should be clear rules against recruiting during the interview. It would work much better to give all of the time to the presenting student and let the schools make their pitch at callbacks. |
| **13. How often do you access the Festival website? - Comments** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | I look at it before the festival. |
| **14. Please take a moment to view the Festival website at www.illinoistheatrefest.org.  In what ways do you find the Festival website useful? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Information and registration. |
|  | Very clear and informative. |
|  | very useful in planning ahead. |
|  | Lots of information about the festival. |
|  | It's not immediately clear where a university or college should go to register. |
|  | list of auditionees.  Festival handbook. |
|  | It's great to be able to view and download necessary forms from the website |
|  | schedule, dates |
| **15. What features would you like to see on the Festival website? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Seems to be very clear. |
|  | currently satisfied |
|  | I heard that you would be posting the plays at member high schools, colleges and universities. That would be terrific! |
|  | Clear home page access to the University registration and information |
|  | I'd like to see a schedule of the shows/events/workshops in advance of receiving the program book at check in.    Tabs or something that would specifically identify pertinent information for groups. i.e. sponsors, workshop leaders, exhibitors, etc. This would make it easy and quick to find the information that any specific person was looking for. |
| **16. What do you like about the current Festival website? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Easy to read and navigate. |
|  | I enjoy seeing who is participating and what they are doing |
|  | Some of the graphics are appealing |
|  | I love the historical presentation of all the past program book covers. I think it shows the evolution of the festival and our state quite wonderfully. |
| **17. What do you NOT like about the current Festival website? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | Getting Exhibitor information closer to the festival dates was difficult. |
|  | All is good |
|  | It was not easy to find the location of the event on the website. Dates and locations would be appropriate for the first page |
|  | Doesn't seem to have a lot of content. |
| **18. What ideas do you have for improving the Festival website? - Responses** | |
|  | **Answer** |
|  | See #17. Also the hours that Exhibitors were expected to be in the Krannert Lobby were no easily available. This was corrected at one point in past years, but we seem to be back to the mystery of exhibitors figuring it out on their own. Basically when the All-State Show starts. |
|  | None |
|  | It's always great to have a good graphics person come up with a new design! It would be great if you could have listings of all the plays in the state! |
|  | Add a lists of people working on the upcoming Festival and their contact information so it is easy to get to the right person when we have a question.    Great job everyone! |