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Questionnaire for theatre expert

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Please answer the following questions giving specific examples where possible:

Experience and Expertise

Outline your experience and expertise in the area of theatre

During 2013 I graduated from the masters' program "Artistic psycho-social practices" in New Bulgarian University.

During 2009/2010 I participated as a volunteer in a project "Art-social children's center" in the school for visually impaired children "Louis Braille" in Sofia and the project "Students' practices" - artistic work with kids in 88th Secondary school in Sofia.

What has been the impact of theatre on your own life?

For me theater is an art, which provokes creative thinking, motivates spontaneity, builds skills for group work / work with a partner, and last but not least, brings personal satisfaction from all the efforts exerted for the achievement of the final goal – the performance.



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What impact do you think theatre can have on our lives and what you consider to be its instrumental value (i.e. the way theatre can be used in particular settings rather than theatre as art or entertainment)?

In its different forms as art and a tool for entertainment, theater can support the development and enrichment of the personality. Theater approaches find application in the implementation of workshops, educational projects, psycho-drama, etc., which are gaining greater popularity and use in contemporary everyday life.

What strategies do you use and how do you work with hard to reach groups or people who are not usually engaged with theatre or who might be reluctant to take part?

Building a concept about theater and what a theatrical performance is when working with such groups is one of the challenges, particularly if the participants have no personal experience as spectators. Using similar experiences as viewers of TV programs and series or as listeners to audio-fairytales describes and creates an attitude for involvement. Motivation can also be achieved through the attractive idea that the participant is going to enrich and present his/her skills before his/her friends and relatives.

Theatre and Working with visually impaired people

Describe any experience you have had of working with visually impaired people either with theatre or in some other capacity.

I took part as a volunteer in the project “Art-social children’s center”, implemented in the school for visually impaired children “Louis Braille” – Sofia.

How was working with visually impaired people (if there was such work) different to the way you would normally work?

Work with youths with impaired vision requires approaches focused on building experience and developing skills, qualities and knowledge within the participants mainly by use of sound and tactile orientation tools and models.

What impact has working with visually impaired young people (if there was such work) had on your own practice?

The work with youths with impaired vision led me into an area which imposed challenges before me directed towards the search for approaches in the artistic practice, through which to develop



perceptions with minimum visual conceptualizations within the minds of the participants via audible and tactile “images”.

What do you think is the value for visually impaired young people of working through theatre?

Theater and work in a group for the development of a performance with participants with visual impairments placed the grounds for enriching the artistic experience of the youths, led them into the field of art, which reflects universal human relations and values, filled with meaning and importance through the act of taking a role.

VISION

What do you think we should consider regarding the use of theatre in the VISION project?

I think that for the purpose of building artistic skills within the participations it is advisable for special attention and time to be dedicated to the music and dance as means of expression in theater. Children and youths with visual impairments easily and with pleasure master and express themselves through musical rhythm, while the dance movements develop their motor culture as well as help the acceptance of the nature and hence unfolding of the possibilities of one's own body.

What do you think could be the impact of this work?

The artistic work with visually impaired children creates preconditions for the formation and development of communicative skills, skills for better verbal expression and mastering of gestures and body movements within the surrounding space, strengthens the confidence in one's own capabilities and brings satisfaction from each small achievement in the process of creation and realization of the theater play.

Please attach a current CV with this questionnaire!

Thanking you for your time and consideration:

The V.I.S.I.ON team

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