

MIDTERM REPORT FOR COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR CAIT BOTHWELL

WHERE I CURRENTLY AM WITH THE YELLOW SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL THEATER ARTS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

At this point I am just in the process of continuing with customizing my site. I feel as though I am in a really good place since I bought a domain and theme early in the term. My biggest challenge is gathering the content to add to the site, which is slowly, but surely, coming in. I was officially added to a closed Facebook group for the drama club in order to have access to photos and show information; also I have been in contact with the board to receive some information. Another exciting thing that has come up is the offer to reimburse me for the money I've spent on this site. I am still considering whether or not I will just make this a personal donation to the organization. For the rest of the term, it is important that I focus on content and web development, two areas that I have outlined below.

WEB DEVELOPMENT

While I have been playing around a lot and learning about the ins and outs of the theme I purchased, the last couple of weeks have really been dedicated to the nuts and bolts of design. There have been a few little things that I have really had to search to find answers to such as resizing photos and changing colors.

CONTENT

The content is definitely the biggest part of the site and the most challenging to get a hold of. Finally getting in touch with those involved in the organization is a huge step forward in terms of getting ahold of pictures and information.

MIDTERM TIMELINE

WEEK SIX

- Continue editing site
- Continue to gather content
- Draw up a site map and make sure the layout makes sense and is easily navigated

WEEK SEVEN

Peer review and get some general feedback on the layout of the site
Contact Mary Beth Burkholder for scans of photos from previous shows (last 15 years)
Figure out the plug-in for online ticketing and work on incorporating that to the website

WEEK EIGHT

Continue to edit design and content
Hopefully e-mail a few screenshots to the Theater Arts Board for feedback

WEEK NINE

Use feedback from peers and the organization in order to finalize content and design

WEEK TEN

Touch-ups
Presentation

WEEKLY JOURNALS

WEEK TWO

Accidentally purchased a domain name (yshstheaterarts.com) with BlueHost this week. I have begun looking at themes and trying to decide what I want and need. I am looking at both Mojo Marketplace and Creative Market (a website I have recently discovered). While waiting to discuss themes in class, I have begun to work on ideas for a logo for the organization as well as starting to compile content, including photographs from the current season as well as past shows. For the upcoming week I need to decide on a theme and upload it so that I can begin customizing. I should also think about whom I can contact that would have photos and information about the show.

WEEK THREE

I have chosen a theme for my website from Mojo Marketplace. After some deliberation I decided to work in Word Press this time around and perhaps dive into HTML next

year. The theme I have chosen is called Creativo and it was one of the best-rated themes. It is important for me that it can be customized easily and that it works over many platforms. This week I have also finished up a logo for the organization and have finally gotten in touch with the high school's drama club. They have provided me with access to many photographs from the last year's productions as well as all the show information, posters, etc. Now that I have a theme and am starting to acquire some materials I can begin to add content to my site in the upcoming weeks. I am having a bit of trouble uploading the theme and have contacted customer service for their help.

WEEK FOUR

After handling the issues I had last week and successfully uploading the theme, I have continued to gather and begun place content into the site. The main challenge has been getting a hold of content but I am working on it by reaching out to others involved in the organization. I have also spent a lot of time this week watching video tutorials that came with the theme in order to figure out some of the more complicated customizations. I have also done a bit of outside research to help me with some technical problems that were not addressed in any tutorials.

WEEK FIVE

Since I feel like I am in a pretty good place with my website I have spent most of this week looking back on the term so far, analyzing where I am and what I need to do, and writing up the midterm review. I know that I have a good foundation so far but I would like to continue by adding a plug-in for online ticketing as well as finding the answers to a few small problems I am encountering. For example, there is a bright blue line below my menu and I have been unable to find an option to change its coloring. The color does not fit with the rest of the site and I know it will bug me until it is figured out.