

SAMPLE PRODUCTION STATEMENT WRITTEN BY MONICA CROSS (c) 2021

Production Statement

*The Genesis of Hoggetowne* by Scott West

Production Team: Monica Cross, Director; Scott West, Fight Coordinator; Miranda West, Costume Coordinator; Alan Tyson, Stage Manager; Randall Dees, Production Manager.

Respect is the most important part of our rehearsal process. Respect for people's time. Respect for their ideas. Respect for props and equipment. Respect for the work. Every aspect of our process works towards this one defining principle, and without it this production would fail.

We value the time that the cast, crew, board, instructors, and volunteers contribute to Thieves Guild Productions, and I will work on this production to make sure that time is efficiently and respectfully used. Rehearsals will be divided into a block schedule with morning blocks and afternoon blocks on Saturday and Sunday. A rough schedule will go out at the beginning of every month so that everyone has an idea of what we will be working within the month. And a weekly schedule will go out no later than Monday night of each week with specific call times so that members can schedule their week accordingly. At the beginning of the rehearsal period, there will be a lot of time to work individually on bits, gimmicks, character development, and fights. During this time, we will also be running board dialogue and blocking with the leads. Once fights have all been choreographed, we will begin running board with the entire cast for that board: first running just moves until those are smooth, and then scheduling blocks to integrate fights into the boards. If actors are not a lead, fighting, or doing incidental work on a board, they will be scheduled to work on character development, bits, and gimmicks. Rehearsals will begin on time, and will end promptly at time so that people can schedule around rehearsal. We will divide the assistant directors and assistant stage managers among the groups working so that no one is working without a member of the production team present. After Christmas, all rehearsals will be all-calls as we begin putting the entire show together.

We value the knowledge of the membership, and their vast experience. We know that members have a lot of institutional knowledge and immense creativity. We will make time in rehearsal to hear the ideas of the cast and crew and take them into consideration. We will also be holding production "tea time," an informal office hours for cast members to stop by and chat about their character, their ideas, any concerns they may have, or just to socialize. While we cannot guarantee that every idea brought to the Production Team will be implemented, we can guarantee that it will be heard and an effort will be made to see if it can be incorporated into the cohesive vision of the show.

We will maintain the weapons, props, costumes, and set pieces belonging to Thieves Guild Productions, and we will respect the belongings of members. TGP equipment will be cataloged and inventoried by the Production Management and Stage Management teams, and responsibilities will be divided accordingly. We will not ask any member of the cast or crew to use their personal belongings for anything that could be damaged or destroy the object. The Stage Management and Directorial teams will check with all members who do use personal belongings to make sure that they agree to the use of those objects in the show. We will also make sure that

SAMPLE PRODUCTION STATEMENT WRITTEN BY MONICA CROSS (c) 2021

they are aware of the inherent dangers of using personal belongings in the show. We will also work with all members to make sure that they have what they need for their character, and find ways to make everything work within the individual's budget.

Just as we will schedule time for rehearsal, we will also schedule times for set construction, prop fabrication, and costume design. We will set early deadlines and check in often. Our goal is to divide labor so that a lot of work does not fall on a few people. We will seek out volunteers that can assist with the production needs, and make sure that there is suitable assistance for the work being done.

Putting on a show for the Medieval Faire is fun, but it is also work. We will treat it as both. We will not denigrate the work or be dismissive of it, but we will also not treat it as devoid of fun. We will strive to create a collaborative, energized, and uplifting space of the exploration of this craft and experimentation within rehearsal. Our goal is to create the best show possible and do so in a way that is constructive for everyone. We will start every day with warm-ups, check-ins, and announcements, and we will end every day with kudos, cool downs, and announcements. We will maintain access to water, and we will call appropriate breaks. We want our rehearsal to be a place where people enjoy working towards a common goal.

Maintaining an organized production calendar and rehearsal process requires a lot of time outside of rehearsal. This is why we will have efficient weekly production meetings, and a rotation schedule so that not every member of the production team needs to be present at every rehearsal or build session. By planning ahead and rotating schedules, I will respect my team's work and time so that they can be successful in their positions and in turn support the membership and this production.