Cultivating Relationships “Taking it a Step Further”



Black Theatre Educators’ Caucus

**Workshop objective:**

Establish mentorships, partnerships and support for theatre educators.

***\*Warm-up activity*** (Bonding exercise)

\***Group Activity** (Do You Know)

***Concerns****:* Theatre educators are often the only theatre person on their campus and that can lead him/her to feel isolated. At times, theatre teachers have a difficult time with the administration understanding what a theatre class looks and feels like. Meeting deadlines can become challenging because of extra-curricular obligations. Producing the show leaves the educator with limited time to do anything else.

***The purpose*** is to address these concerns while offering successful solutions from experienced educators on how they were able to cultivate relationships not only on their campus, but also within the community, local businesses and other professional organizations. We would like to stress the importance of relationships not only with your students, but your district, community and beyond.

**Campus**

* Volunteer to assist other clubs and programs.
* Participate in district all state musicals, festivals, convocation, etc.
* Incorporate feeder campuses in your production and offer activities which can incorporate younger students.
* Utilize skills and students from other programs on campus within your productions.

**Community & Business**

* Produce free performances for community members.
* Create community services within your program to draw community attention.
* Support local retirement homes and non-profit organizations.
* Ask for donations and mail out patron letters to local businesses.
* Highlight sponsored businesses and sells ads in your programs & social media platforms.

**Collegiate & Professional Theatre**

* Attend student matinees and encourage your students to attend workshops and classes. Go out and watch professional shows.
* Bring in professional and collegiate instructors to serve as guest speakers or clinic your students
* Visit universities and professional theatre houses and familiarize yourself with the staff. Don't be afraid to ask for things you may need.
* Encourage student teaching, collaborations and mentorships with collegiate programs.

**Open Forum**