

The background is a dark, mottled, and textured surface, possibly a piece of old wood or a weathered wall, with various shades of black, dark brown, and olive green. A thick, horizontal yellow brushstroke with irregular, hand-painted edges cuts across the middle of the image. The text is centered within this yellow stroke.

BFRJ CASTING **DIRECTIVE**

WHAT IS THE BFRJ CASTING DIRECTIVE?

A rigorous 9 week training program, led by BIPOC casting professionals, in which accepted applicants will gain tools on both how the casting profession works and pinpoint the areas where change is desperately needed for further BIPOC representation within the profession.

In an effort to completely alleviate the “pay to play” system and set the example for the breaking down of oppressive and non-equitable structures, this program would not only compensate the trainers, but also provide a stipend to those applicants that are accepted into the program.

WHY?



The current structure for beginning work in the casting profession requires an unpaid internship, which due to structural racism and generational wealth makes it a “pay to play” system. If you don’t possess outside financial support, it’s not a possibility.



The BIPOC representation within the casting profession is disturbingly low. Productions/projects that represent multiple BIPOC voices and experiences are not being cast by BIPOC.



The WESEEYOU movement has made a list of demands to be met by the casting industry, and this training program will aid in the meeting of those demands.

HOW DOES IT WORK?



The trainees would submit an application. Those applications will be reviewed by a selection committee of 7 theatre industry professionals who would choose 10 applicants to participate in the training program.



The chosen applicants would work through modules with different casting directors so that upon completion of the training, they could begin work as an entry level casting assistant, either working freelance or with casting offices.



As well as taking in knowledge from BIPOC casting professionals, the applicants would also be trained in different types of submission software within the field, ie. Breakdown Express, Cast It, Backstage, etc.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 - 2 hour training with X Casting on casting philosophy

WEEK 2 - Two days of 2 hour trainings on "Breakdown Express" with BIPOC casting professionals

WEEK 3 - Two days of 2 hour trainings on "Breakdown Express" with BIPOC casting professionals

WEEK 4 - Two days of 2 hour trainings on "Breakdown Express" with BIPOC casting professionals

WEEK 5 - 2 hour training with Stewart/Whitley Casting on casting philosophy

WEEK 6 - 2 hour training with "Backstage" and BIPOC casting professionals on "Backstage" and "Cast It"

WEEK 7 + 8 - Panel Discussions on casting procedures and practices

WEEK 9 - 2 hour wrap up session with Trainees and BIPOC professionals

TRAINERS



F. BINTA BERRY



GAMA VALLE

ERICA HART



X CASTING

VICTOR VAZQUEZ

DESTINY LILLY



STEWART/WHITLEY CASTING

DUNCAN STEWART & BENTON WHITLEY

CHRISTINE MCKENNA



DANICA RODRIGUEZ

XAVIER RUBIANO



BUDGET

TRAINEES

(10 x \$1500)

\$15,000

TRAINERS

(11 x \$500)

\$5,500

MARKETING

(GRAPHICS/VIDEO)

\$3,500

INCIDENTALS

\$1,000

TOTAL

\$25,000

The background is a dark, mottled, and textured surface, possibly a piece of old wood or metal, with various scratches and imperfections. A thick, horizontal yellow brushstroke with rough, feathered edges cuts across the middle of the image. The text is centered within this yellow stroke.

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