

**Position:** VIDEOGRAPHER / EDITOR

**Job Description:** Imagine a world where you set the initial tone for the most awesome, fun filled, hilarious theater event of the summer. A show that kicks off with your work being showcased on the big screen (OK, so it's a drop down projector screen but it's still JUST as special!) before the actors take to the stage. Think of it like the opening credits to a movie or TV series but with the flash and panache of a finely tuned music video! If you're technically savvy when it comes to video production, have an eye for camera work, an editor's mind for comedic pacing and an ear for the music that ties it all together, then PLAYERS wants you! The videographer/editor is responsible for the creation, shooting and post production/ editing of the opening video, in addition to having a script and shooting schedule prepared in advance of the day of principle photography. You also set up the camera/shots and make sure all the necessary equipment and tools required for the shoot are available and ready to use. We have most recently moved in to the realm of HD so any experience with that particular format is an asset. It's like being a part of a no budget film set where you get to have both creative and collaborative freedom without having to fear the Hollywood suits showing up and breathing down your neck! :-)

**Tasks during the rehearsal process include:**

- There are no real rehearsals for this position other than possibly meeting with the producer(s), writer(s), and director of the show to brainstorm ideas and figure out a schedule, and/or meeting with actors to discuss some of the things you have in mind for them and to hear what they may have in mind for themselves.
- If a shooting script is prepared in advance of the shooting day, you may want to help the actors familiarize themselves with the material and go over any blocking notes you have for them.
- Each year has been slightly different from the years prior (depending on the skills and ideas of the videographer in conjunction with their collaboration/communication with director and writer of the show) so the process can vary. It really all comes down to the time you are able to commit to and what your strengths are as a filmmaker/editor.

**Tasks during Run of Show include:**

- None! All you'd want to do is show up for one of the runs (or more depending on where your heart lies) to see how amazing your video looks on a screen projected to a packed room of excited people laughing at the hilarity of your work! You and the cast you worked with are comedic geniuses and all your hard efforts are finally paying off!

**Personal Time:** If you haven't seen them, you'll want to spend some time researching the TV series and/or movies and characters the particular show you are producing the opening video for is parodying. This requires watching TV on a regular basis which can be painstakingly hard!!! Getting to know the characters, their relationships, and what motivates them (and, in certain cases, even the editing and camera styles of those series and movies being parodied) is integral to the humour on display in the final cut of the video so any information you gather from your research will go a long way!

**Toughest Part:** Shooting and editing the video with such a tight deadline. More often than not, you are given only one scheduled day for principal photography and may need to set aside a time for reshoots depending on what was missed. As for the final cut of the video, it must be delivered to the producer during the earlier part of tech week which does not leave a lot of time between the day of the actual shoot and the delivery date. You have to be able to think quickly, readily, and efficiently during the post production stage in order to meet the deadline.

**Best Part:** Having an abundance of freedom with what you film and how you opt to shoot it and watching the video unfold at the actual show with everybody. The laughter is infectious and the great feedback you receive for the hours of hard work you've put in is truly wonderful! Also, being able to play around with various editing techniques, using the music of your choosing in post production, and getting creative control of the final edit (dependent on its running time...we generally try to keep it under 3 minutes)? In a word...awesome!

**Recommended Skills or Experience:** Camera operator and editing experience

**What it's like and why it's worth it:** Working with the PLAYERS crew is fun and exciting. There are always such an interesting variety of personalities and everyone generally gets along swimmingly! Everyone works hard and, in the end, the show totally rocks! Most of the past videographers come for the show but stay for the beer! ;- ) (Just kidding!) It's worth it because you get to work with an incredibly diverse group of talented people who are all completely dedicated to the task at hand...raising money for charity by putting on a full fledged production with a wicked array of live song and dance numbers, riotous comedy, and bang on impressions of your favourite TV show and movie personalities! And the show starts every night with the opening video!