Project Proposal

Prepared for: Jonathan Menendez
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March 2, 2014
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Objective
This proposal involves the creation of a Docu-Series. “Overcoming Adversities as a LGBT: One Story at a Time” will tell the stories of people in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community. We will find out how each person overcame their own adversities growing up as a LGBT.

Goals
March 2, 2014: I will submit a proposal for my Docu-Series.
March 5, 2014: Create Kickstarter (give month to fund)
March 6, 2014-April 4, 2014: Find possible interviewees through own contacts, social media, etc. Schedule dates and times to interview.
April 5, 2014: Project completely funded and go ahead in purchasing all equipment.
April 6-7, 2014: Still purchasing equipment
April 10, 2014-June 5, 2014: Start the process of interviews (After each interview start to edit individual video)
June 8, 2014: Create trailer for Docu-Series
June 10, 2014: Upload trailer on YouTube
June 11-19, 2014: Advertise Docu-Series through social media, networks, etc.
June 20, 2014: Launch first episode in my Docu-Series
Equipment Needed

- Canon XA20 HD Camcorder
- Rode smartLav
- Final Cut Pro X
- Canon Deluxe Tripod 300 w/Carrying Case 6195A006
- Photography Video 3 Light EZ Softbox Kit 24in x 24in by PB

Project Background

My name is Devon Yaffe and I am the creator of “Overcoming Adversities as a LGBT: One Story at a Time”. My life growing up was not easy. I was always the odd kid out of the group. Not having many friends I would usually be found by myself. I never understood why kids did not accept me, but I knew I would not change myself to meet their standards. When I did have friends they would be girls. This continued until seventh grade when I was accepted into my middle schools “Play Production” class. It dawned on me once I had gotten into this class that I was not so different. I found people who were loving and accepting of everyone and everything. I finally found the place in which I could truly be myself. I could in fact say that I was happy. Though I was happy, I found myself often questioning my identity. Some could say that I was in denial, but the fact is that I just was not able to accept myself. I was gay. Even though I was not comfortable enough to go public, I was still ridiculed for my differences by the people who were not already my friends. This caused my downward spiral into depression, which included contemplating taking my own life. My parents caught on to my unhappiness, but were still unaware of the reason behind it. They sent me to therapy, but I still avoided the real cause of my problems. It was not until I went to high school that I saw there were many types of *different* people who were all being accepted and appreciated. Because of a supportive family and a group of diverse new friends, I was able to accept myself and confidently call myself a member of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community. As a result, I have made many friends and have helped them overcome their own adversities.

Though life in school was hard for me, I had a supportive family and a great group of friends to keep me going. Most LGBT youth are not so fortunate. Many grow up not being accepted by anyone and sometimes turn to suicide as the last resort. After dealing through my own adversities I felt like it is my turn to give back. I decided I wanted to create the Docu-Series: “Overcoming Adversities as a LGBT: One Story at a Time”. As a member of this ever growing community I plan on interviewing LGBT members of all ages finding out how life is/was growing up with both accepting and non-accepting family and school environments. How were they able to overcome discrimination in life? Do/Did they truly accept themselves? By creating this series I hope that gay youth all over can see what I have created and be inspired to add their own voice to the community. I feel like my Docu-Series will give the true life testimony of those who have grown up LGBT in a heterosexual world.
Related text to work

In a text written by Alexander R. Galloway called *Social Realism in Gaming*, talks about the effects of social realism. Something that caught my eye that I felt pertained to my work was this quote.

“Andrè Bazin defined realism in the cinema as a technique to approximate the basic phenomenological qualities of the real world. And he knew that “phenomenological qualities” did not simply mean visual representation. It also means real life in all its dirty detail, hopeful desires, and abysmal defeats.” (Galloway 74)

In a sense I believe my Docu-Series will fully provide the idea of social realism as these will be normal everyday people giving telling their coming out stories. All the information spoken will be raw and truly focused on the person whom is spewing at the time. Being able to promote the stories of those who have been so much in there life is something that can truly relate to the real world. Being able to put this through the community of “YouTube" I am able to perpetuate the stories of tho

Michel Foucault on the “Author Function” talks about the rolls of authorship and I believe this topic can be well related within my project proposal.

“We can easily imagine a culture where discourses could circulate without any need for an author. Discourses, whatever their status, form, or value, and regardless of our manner of handling them, would unfold in a pervasive anonymity. No longer the tiresome repetitions: “Who is the real author?” "Have we proof of his authenticity and originality?” "What has he revealed of his most profound self in his language?””

In this case where we try to find authorship we will look towards those who get interviewed. The author is you o in the case of my docu-series the interviewee. Since the docu-series will feature one person telling their own story they have been deemed the author and have full ownership of what is said.

Works Cited


OVERCOMING ADVERSITIES AS A LGBT: ONE STORY AT A TIME

BUDGET

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<th>Description</th>
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Total $2,606

Solution

In order to make the production of the Docu-Series I will need funding. I will look towards creating a kickstarter where I will hopefully reach out to those around in support of my project and help me fund it.