

ESU United Project Information

We will be creating from scratch all aspect of this original film. All characters in the film will be fictional, but they will be very closely aligned with the historical, recent past as well as present stories and experiences of the collaborators involved in the project.

Very important note: Even if you get selected to be an actor/creator in this project, not all stories offered, developed or even filmed will make the final cut. In any film a lot of great work ends up as we say “on the cutting room floor.” (That from the days before computer editing when we used to literally cut out parts of the printed film). Something you create may be excellent but it may not be as helpful to tell the whole story as other clips we have available. You will still have this piece for yourself, and can make it available in other ways or develop it down the road into a different theatre piece (Some examples might be in Collaborative Theatre class or for a Stage II project or cabaret or YouTube post).

Basic shape of piece:

It will be in three parts,

- **Oral History Stories - Family Heritage and Cultural Legacy (Gifts and Challenges)**

Who are the people and culture you come from? This can be related to your unique family, your cultural, racial or ethnic identity or some other background that makes you you. (This part will be developed through Oral History interviews, transcribed and edited.)

- **Cultural Intersections, Trespasses, and Misunderstandings**

How does this background shape the way you think, feel about the world and behave? Challenges posed in the now because of my background.

Gifts I offer because of my background. How has that impacted your interactions at ESU? (This part will be developed through improvisations and screenwriting about actual experiences.)

- **The Legacy we want to leave moving forward**

What legacy do I or we want to leave? What dreams do we have for our lives or the world? What contribution does do we want to leave for future generations at ESU and in the world? (This part will be developed through improvisations and screenwriting about our needs, desires and dreams of a new future.)

More on structure to unite these sections.

They will not necessarily be shown in order in the film. This is to be determined. We may be using a structure similar to 13 Reasons Why, where there is a core issue and we flash back to some of the things that led to the misses, trespasses, misunderstandings. We will flash back on some of the characters in the central piece, but not necessarily on all.

To audition:

Please record a video, on your phone is fine, of you telling a story about your unique family and family culture. Consider the background, what you wear and any key props needed to help the story. Please record it in landscape mode (phone turned horizontally).

This can be one of the old family stories that either was told or witnessed by you over and over. It can be a story of your grandmother or grandfather, or relatives further back. If you don't know them or their stories it could be about family members in closer generations to you, or something significant that happened to you or your family.

VIDEOS DUE by TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8. PLEASE UPLOAD THEM TO THE THEATRE DEPARTMENT D2L site DROPBOX, IF YOU ARE NOT A MAJOR OR MINOR OR TAKING A THEATRE CLASS THIS SEMESTER AND DO NOT SEE THIS D2L PLEASE EMAIL mjackson18@live.esu.edu and she will add you.

Please also upload to the same site your audition form. Attached to this email or you can get it from Maggie also.

Other ways to get involved:

We are creating this piece together (devising). There will be limited positions in the rehearsal room besides the actor/creators and that will help create the film, and limited positions helping on the minimal design and editing.

ESUnited Positions and Collaborators

Attached is a list of positions on a film crew. We will not need all of the positions because of the unique way we are creating this project. Below are some of the positions we will utilize including those already filled and others still open.

Creative Team:

Director and Screenwriter – Stephanie Daventry French
Producer, Production Designer, Director of Photography, Editor – Christopher Domanski
Art Director, Costume and Props Designer – Tanner McAlpin
Music Supervisor/Consultant (Composer) – Brian Hodge
Production Coordinator/Script Supervisor – Maggie Jackson

Production Support Positions:

Costume Assistant -
Props Master and Stylist

Positions on Set:

Director and Screenwriter – Stephanie French
Production Coordinator/Script Supervisor – Maggie Jackson

Production Assistants (like ASMs) – Jeanine,
1st Assistant Director -
2nd Assistant Director -
Assistant Screenwriter -
Actor/Creators – Audition required.