

SOME IDEAS TO HELP YOU IMPROVE YOUR PRODUCTIONS

1 - USE A SCRIPT AND A STORYBOARD

PLAN YOUR SHOW BEFORE YOU START TO SHOOT.

KNOW WHAT SHOTS YOU WANT AND WHERE YOU WILL BE SHOOTING

2 - SCOUT YOUR LOCATIONS

GO TO WHERE YOU WANT TO SHOOT

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO FILM

SEE WHAT EQUIPMENT YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

NOT ONLY LOOK FOR GOOD VISUALS – BE AWARE OF SOUND

IS IT TOO NOISY TO RECORD GOOD AUDIO

3 - KEEP YOUR PRODUCTION IN THE SCOPE OF WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR RESOURCES AND TIME.

USE YOUR RESOURCES

FAMILY – FRIENDS – LOCAL FILMMAKERS – TEACHERS -

4 - TURN OFF THE AUTO FOCUS. USE YOUR EYE TO FOCUS THE CAMERA.

5 - TURN OFF AUTOBALANCE

DO A WHITE BALANCE FOR EACH SCENE

6 - DON'T ZOOM DON'T PAN DON'T TILT.

IF YOU MOVE THE CAMERA, HAVE A REASON. NOT JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN

MOVES SHOULD HAVE A STARTING POINT AND A STOPPING POINT

7 - USE A TRIPOD OR SOMETHING TO HOLD THE CAMERA STEADY.

HANDHELD SHOTS CAN MAKE YOUR VIEWER DIZZY

DETRACTS FROM YOUR SHOW.

8 - USE A MICROPHONE THAT IS CLOSE TO THE SOUND YOU WANT TO RECORD

MICS ON CAMERA SELDOM GIVE YOU GOOD AUDIO

REMEMBER THAT SOUND IS 50% OF YOUR SHOW – BAD SOUND EQUALS BAD SHOW

9 - RECORD THE SHOT LONG ENOUGH THAT YOU CAN EDIT

YOU SHOULD HAVE EXTRA FOOTAGE AT THE START AND END OF THE SCENE

RECORD AT LEAST 5 SECONDS BEFORE AND AFTER THE SHOT

BETTER THAT THE SCENE IS TOO LONG THAN TOO SHORT – ASK ANY EDITOR !!!

10 - EDITING IS THE KEY TO A GREAT SHOW

BETTER THAT THE SHOW IS TOO SHORT THAN TOO LONG

DON'T FILL YOUR SHOW WITH VIDEO EFFECTS – A CLEAN SHOW IS MUCH BETTER

11 - SELECT MUSIC WITH CARE

MUSIC SHOULD FIT THE MOOD

DON'T MIX THE MUSIC SO LOUD THAT YOU CAN NOT HEAR YOUR VOICE TRACKS

12 - CRAFT SERVICES

THAT'S WHAT FOOD IS CALLED ON THE SET

YOUR CAST AND CREW WILL WORK MUCH HARDER IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR THEM TO EAT

13 - CAST AND CREW

SOMETIMES IT IS HARD TO GET PEOPLE TO WORK ON YOUR SHOW

ASK THEM FAR ENOUGH IN ADVANCE THAT THEY HAVE TIME TO PLAN TO BE WITH YOU

MAKE SURE THEY HAVE A WAY TO GET TO THE LOCATION WHERE YOU ARE SHOOTING

THE BEST – VERY BEST DIRECTORS ARE KIND AND POLITE

REMEMBER YOU ARE GIVING DIRECTIONS – NOT ORDERS

MAKE SURE THEY ARE AS COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE

14 - SHOW TIME

POPCORN

INVITE PEOPLE THAT HAVE WORKED ON YOUR SHOW TO SEE IT

A "THANK YOU" GOES A LONG WAY

A HAND WRITTEN NOTE GOES EVEN FARTHER!!!

15 - ENTER THE KIWANIS FILM FESTIVAL

IF YOU NEED HELP OR HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SEND ME AN E-MAIL

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