

ASSITEJ Regional Workshop evaluation

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PLACE AND LOCATION

Colonia del Sacramento City in Uruguay is the city chosen by ASSITEJ Uruguay to host the 1st. ASSITEJ Regional Workshop. This is an excellent place for an intensive workshop like this as it is very quiet, has short distances, beach and river that helps the participants to concentrate in the duty, without losing time and at the same time to relax during free time.

The location (Colonia Culture House) has also been a perfect place. Adequated spaces, free air gave good possibilities to the work as well as to the breaks and helped to the communication.

LOGÍSTICS

Participants and coordinators should thank the detailed care of the organizers from ASSITEJ (Daniel Fernández) as well as from ASSITEJ Uruguay (Gabriel Macció Pastorini y Andrés Valledor) and also Culture Secretary of Colonia Members. They paid attention to each one of our needs, personal and relatives to our work, trying to solve any problem we could have and sharing the activity with the rest of us.

They had some problems with the hosting proposed by Colonia City and needed to change it after the first night. Everything was efficiently solved but for the future it would be good to think in a hosting closer to the workshop location and well prepared for the rest of the participants.

PARTICIPANTS

The participants were mostly Young people, at the beginning of their careers and/or drama teachers. There were also some experienced professionals in TYA who work, as most of Latin American professionals in independent theatre groups. The diverse experiences did not affected the good development of the playwriting workshop. There most of them did not have any experience in playwriting so, even when different backgrounds it was worked on the same level.

For next time, it would be interesting that the call out make it clear who are the addressees, which is the level of the workshop. In cases like this where two different workshops were presented (playwriting and physical theatre) it would be also interesting if the applicants can select in advance in which workshop they want to participate.

The participants were very much engaged with the playwriting workshop and very enthusiastic during the five days, even when it was clear that it was an easy duty.

They leave with new points of view about their own activity and encouraged to research in playwriting field.

GENERAL STRUCTURE

I think that the scheme of the workshops should be thought more deeply. The fact that we had two workshops no related between them it's not completely justified. There should be one workshop each encounter and, in case of having more than one those workshop should be related, exchanging the work during the activity.

We proposed a short encounter between the participants of both workshops at the end of the day just to show something done or tell the others about the work and it really work but I think it was not enough.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

This kind of workshops have demonstrated in previous similar experiences done in Latin America (Taboo, Forums, Schoolyard stories, etc.) the need of training and exchange that our practitioners have and the few opportunities they have participate in experiences like these. Further than training a week exchanging experiences with their colleagues strengthen their relationship, create new links and stimulate, without any doubt the personal work and as a consequence the work in the region.

I firmly support the development of the Regional Workshops. It shouldn't be an isolated experience but a programmed project for each year it could be this kind of workshops in different regions of the world.