**Assignment # 1**

Over the next eight months or so I plan to have a clear understanding of what Directing, Producing, and Screenwriting are all about. I desire to take this knowledge and implement it into a career which, with the help of others will allow me to create beautiful and innovative film projects never before seen. I expect to gain the rudimentary knowledge of how the film industry works and how to network/market myself or a production company as an international brand.

Directing is something I have little experience with, so I am interested to see how particular managing tools can transform an idea onto the big screen i.e. what angles, lighting, setting can do to fabricate an atmosphere where the narrative takes place. I want to be able to work with actors/crewmembers and gain their trust through affective communication and mutual respect. I believe working with a motivated team is significant to success. I want to know how to keep co-workers excited in times of doubt and ways to use collective talent to achieve a desired goal. Work I am involved with should stand out from mediocrity, but doing that alone is extremely difficult and takes educated minds to do so, including me. I want to study films and understand their objectives, how and why they were made, what tools were used to make something that left an impression on me/on others, and what I can learn from individuals who have gone before me. And then I want to apply this knowledge to a functioning career.

I think a big obstacle in film is discovering material that is original and authentic. Producing plays a major role in that department, but I want to know how. I plan to discover what measures are needed to find an idea or storyline and then have a screenwriter assist in bringing that to life. How do you raise money for a film? How do you market that film? How do you persuade others that this idea is worth investing in? What amount of oversight does a producer have when working on a project? I eventually want to be able to answer these questions. When I think of the word “produce” I imagine a marketplace full of different fruit. And as the shopper I have to be able to decipher what fruit is good and what fruit is bad. As a student I need to be able to recognize what quality concepts entail and how to get them to the masses in a persuasive manner. I hope to discover new, ground-breaking methods to engage an audience beyond the film screen through social media, networking, and approaches that don’t currently exist.

I hope to be able to understand the steps, guidelines, and procedures necessary to construct a screenplay. I then want to learn how to scrutinize the screenplay through affective editing techniques and insightful additions or minimizations. I want to know how certain functions are used to build a storyline (plot, character, scene, etc.) and then organize those concepts into an actual film structure. I think that by better understanding what producers/executive/audiences are looking for will help me cater to the needs/wants people have. I also want to be able write storylines never before imagined. Doesn’t everyone? I sincerely believe creativity is the exciting part of film, but I also understand that there is a gloomy cloud hanging over Hollywood. I expect to learn how to protect what I work on, be it a screenplay, original thoughts, or undistributed conceptions. I personally value what I help to make, along with having a respect for the efforts of others, and because so, I believe all persons should take credit for their own material. I am not too naïve to think that “borrowed ideas” don’t exist, but as an advocate for honesty I anticipate gaining a knowledge of how to protect others and myself from such occurrences.

I must say I am excited to work with a mentor who has a lot of answers to the previous questions. I can’t wait to get some hands-on experience and put my knowledge and skills to use. I have a lot to learn but am eager to ask questions and write down countless notes. I hope to be able to maintain a constant humble respect for this process, my mentor, and Film Connection. I am truly grateful for this privilege and opportunity and look forward to someday meeting James Petulla and Brian Kraft.

**3 plot ideas**

Idea 1

A young boy moves to a new city as school is ending and his mom is starting a new career. Over the summer he makes friends with mischievous youths who cause trouble in the neighborhood which ultimately leads to a downward spiral of events. Meanwhile the boy’s mom deals with overcoming personal difficulties of her tattered past.

Idea 2

Sorority girl finds a poem in a bottle after she wakes up on a beach after a late night of partying. She goes to a library to find out who wrote the poem and gets help from a nerdy assistant. They eventually fall in love, but the young man is reluctant as the girl is an alcoholic. He writes her love poems in hope that she'll stop as they date shortly while she supposedly “quits”. He later discovers her still drinking. The nerd boy gets frustrated and dumps her. She finally chooses to get the help she needs and goes to rehab. The nerd boy slowly realizes his love for her and eventually visits her during treatment.

Idea 3

In a dystopian future a group of politicians turn on one of their own as a controversial bill is proposed. The man is outcast into a proletariat community where he charges a rebellion against the evil regime. In the meantime, Eastern powers are luring to destroy the entire nation state in a world war. (Potentially 3 films in 1)