The 5 Year Plan

Overall I want to be the best I can be at what I do. Using efficient methods to avoid time consuming and problematic situations is what I consider to be a professional. I know that there will always be flaws and mishaps, especially in the world of audio production. All I can ask of myself is that I stay committed to my work, be creative, and most importantly have fun with sessions, interacting with people, and experiencing all that I can experience.

First Year

A few short term goals are of course to get a job, hopefully at a local studio, most likely Charlotte. Right now I know a bachelor’s degree might impress a local studio owner or producer, but I also know that it takes a lot of skill and potential to be able to work in a professional studio. The main reasoning for myself obtaining a job is to learn and gain experience. I know the money may be hefty and what most people are wanting to obtain. I was fortunate enough to have a great mentor, Boo English who taught me that persistence is the key to obtaining a job. Boo started out recording his self on an analog tape recorder while playing guitar. Eventually he called the local studio, Sound Choice, which was maybe ten minutes from where he was living at the time. At first he didn’t get the job, waiting and calling relentlessly about the job. Over the next few months he still hasn’t received word and one day they called him to set another interview. This time around he got the job. Boo had no knowledge of all the equipment in a professional studio and was taught by the professionals who worked there. To this day, Boo still says the experience for him was the most pleasing feat for him. I hope that I am that fortunate to have a professional sit down and explain to me in detail how each piece of equipment works and what it does.

Another short term goals is to record and mix, the most important factors in audio production. The more that I sit behind my DAW, I can learn various plug-ins, effects, tweaks, and settings. The more experience I obtain the better when I go in for the first day on the job.

Second, Third, and Fourth Years

A mid-term goal is to continue working at a studio, while still having my own projects to work on at home. I would like to take part in helping my local church with the sound and running sound for live stage set ups. This will also give me experience and admittedly help me with the overall process of signal flow and how everything flows together. Another mid-term goal is to purchase my own actual console. Sitting behind a console, twisting knobs, routing hardware plug-ins, and controlling everything from a manual perspective will also allow me to understand more about signal flow. Purchasing more expensive equipment like a console, hardware plugs-ins, compressors and limiters, equalizers, and others may be considered a long term goal as newly designed and more precise equipment continuously develops.

5 Years

My overall biggest dream and long term goal is to quit my job and do my own thing, recording for local bands and mixing projects for people. I love to be creative and I love music. Put these two together and mixing becomes a creative passion. Another long term goal is to create some form of online business that provides income. Possibly selling and distributing mixes for local bands or promoting them as well.