

5.3 One Day Media / Literature / Science Festival

Aim

To help young people come together to celebrate togetherness and reflect on the impact of media/literature/science in their lives.

Materials Required

- Ten volunteers
- Logo/Theme
- Theme song
- Mementos/T-shirts
- Six Animators
- Prayer service
- Sponsors
- Tickets
- Talk Show Host
- Compere (person who introduces others in a show or performance)
- Live band
- Food stalls / catering

(A preparation time that is at least four months in advance of the actual date)

Input

1) The Preparation

- The chief organizer must call for meetings months in advance of the date scheduled for the festival. A four-month preparation is suitable.
- Volunteers: These are young people who have leadership qualities who would like to form part of the executive committees.
- Animators: These are young people who are intelligent and capable enough to handle group discussions.
- The agenda for these meetings ought to include the job-description of the various committees with reference to the timetable on the day of the festival.

2) The Committees

- The theme / forum committee
- This committee discusses the theme of the media festival.
- They choose the theme song.
- The inauguration is to be arranged by them.
- The case studies, questions for discussion, drama, skits, film and names of experts to be on the panel of the forum are arranged.
- The moderator of the panel is chosen.
- The animators are to be trained to handle discussions and to know more about the theme.
- Mementos will help build camaraderie at the festival. E.g.: a cap, a scarf, a T-shirt...
- A logo is chosen. This would have to appear at the entrance point on the day of the festival as well as on all the tickets and propaganda that is printed.
- The participants are divided into groups. An animator is appointed for each group.
- The prayer service is arranged.

The invitation / registration & publicity committee:

- The invitations are printed. A list of VIPs to be invited for the occasion is prepared.
- The tickets (if required) would have to be sold and collected at the entrance on the day of the festival.
- All details of promotion are to be attended to.
- Registration procedures and particulars are arranged.

The finance and arrangements committee

- Questions about finance are considered:
- Whom to approach for sponsorship? What is the budget? What is the fee? Per participant?
- Tickets are printed as well as lunch coupons, show coupons, etc.
- Enclosures and areas are to be demarcated and barricaded
- Proper permissions are to be obtained from the police and civic departments.
- Sound systems & Theatre equipment are to be arranged.
- Light systems are to be arranged.
- Caterers are invited to present their estimates.
- The budget is calculated per person.
- Are the toilets prepared? They must be spacious and clean with proper directions for gents and ladies.
- A First Aid Center needs to be set up in a prominent and easily accessible place.
- The VIP snack room can be prepared away from performance rooms and meeting points to make it private. Here they can be made to feel welcome and can relax either before or after their presentations or workshops.



The media stall committee:

- What media are on display? Who will be in charge of exhibits / shows?
- Who is in charge of the live talk show on a selected theme
- Arrangements for the inauguration, drama, thanksgiving, etc. have to be seen to in advance.
- If a band is invited, which one should be?
- What kind of music would the audience want?
- Who is the emcee is he/she informed of the events, the purpose of the meeting, the schedule?

3) A Sample Festival Schedule:

7:00 a.m.

Volunteers report and register at the main office.

They receive their T-shirts, badges, as well as case papers.

Ticket collectors / Ushers are appointed to take their positions at the entrance.

8:00 a.m.

Participants are permitted entrance only with their entry tickets and are presented with their badge, lunch coupons and their festival memento.

Participants make their way into the festival enclosure.

8:15 a.m.

As the participants file into the enclosure the emcee welcomes the participants. Music is then played. The emcee introduces the purpose and mode of the festival. He then gives instructions concerning layout, toilets, cafeteria, etc... and teaches the theme song...

9:00 a.m.

Inauguration: The VIPs are welcomed on to the dais.

Participants congregate around the stage informally.

Welcome address by the chief organizer.

Speech by the Chief Guest.

Prayer

Theme song is sung.

9:30 a.m.

Break up into respective groups.

Have a mixer game of 20 minutes where each one gets to know the other (games like introducing your neighbour, etc.)

9:50 a.m. - Time for reflection

Begin the group discussion on the case studies provided. Discuss the questions or show a film, or have several video stalls and then discuss the questions given or watch a play being enacted or a live talk show and discuss questions given. Answers given by the group or discussion of the group must be noted down on paper and handed over to the group leader.

10:30 a.m.

All participants move to the assembly hall or to the stage. Group leaders instead meet to discuss which questions to retain for the panel discussion and which to eliminate.

10:40 a.m.

Panelists are welcomed by the chief moderator and are introduced. The moderator assigns a time limit for the first part: the question-answer session based on the discussion of the group; and, for the second part: questions solicited from the floor. The panel discussion can last for an hour. Finally the moderator thanks the panelists and makes announcements of the lunch programme.

12 noon

Participants queue up for lunch. Lunch is served. Volunteers must ensure smooth delivery of lunch coupons and easy flow of the queue. The party games/telegames are held in the open space provided for this event. It is better to organize them away from the venue of the Forum and the stage, but this is only if space is available.

1:30 p.m.

Party games commence. The participants break up into their respective groups. Sheets to be given to the captains with explanation of the games. Prizes to be announced. Points to be put on a visible score board.

3:30 p.m.

Tea and snacks stall to be opened for participants. All are encouraged to wash and get ready for an evening of prayer and reflection. Meanwhile the platform or stage is arranged once again for the reflection moment.



4:15 p.m.

Participants are invited to take their seats. Songs or hymns which will be used during the prayer are taught.

4:30 p.m.

The prayer-hour begins. End with the theme song.

5:30 p.m.

Clear the floor for the dance. Chairs to be arranged on the side so as to have sufficient place for the dancing. Groups are requested to give a list of songs they would like the band to play.

6:00 p.m.

The Band takes over. Gifts and prizes are distributed between the songs.

6:30 p.m.

Theme song is sung. Final thanksgiving speech. Good bye.

Review

1. As the preparation for the festival begins, the chief organizer must call for meetings months in advance of the date scheduled for the festival. The committees should involve volunteers and animators. The agenda for these meetings ought to include the job-description of the various committees with reference to the timetable on the day of the festival.
2. The various committees could include:
 - The theme / forum committee
 - The invitation / registration & publicity committee
 - The finance and arrangements committee
 - The media stall committee

Reflection

Jesus influenced people's lives within minutes of meeting them. What qualities enabled Him to be so influential? In what ways can we as evangelizers imitate Christ in impacting the youth even as we prepare seminars and retreats for them?

Relevant Skills

From the knowledge you have gained from this lesson and your reflection of how to be more influential in evangelizing, come up with a practical plan for a two-day youth seminar on any topic of your choice.

Resources

BOSCOM-INDIA. 'SHEPHERDS' FOR AN INFORMATION AGE. Matunga: Tej Prasarini, 2000.

BEAMS PRODUCTION. Games for Teachers, Trainers and Youth Ministers. 2008.

