



DAPHNEE MCMMASTER

BIPOC COHORT APPLICATION 2025



PROVIDE CLARITY AND STRUCTURE

My direct report thanked me because she was losing faith in herself and her work due to previously having poor management. She stated to me that under my guidance she was able to start excelling and finding support. It showed in her work I reviewed.

PROUDEST MOMENTS



ACTOR & AUDIENCE SAFETY COMES FIRST

Recently, I directed a new play reading called “Rebuilding Ra” that touched on strong themes in DEI and community ethics. The writer was extremely receptive to my feedback about cultural authenticity. After months of work, we successfully showcased a sold out reading (with an intermission). He was tremendously thankful for my indepth support.

PROUDEST MOMENTS



PRODUCTION COMPANY PENDING

After years of working on projects with false promises, I've decided it was time to make promises to myself I could keep. I've spent the last 5 months working with a nonprofit to start my journey into arts production. I'm making connections at breakfasts and conferences and taking risks I never would have.

PROUDEST MOMENTS



TELL IMPACTFUL STORIES

I've been tremendously thankful to direct new plays, edit short stories, act, take photos, and edit videos for others. I enjoy making art and being apart of journeys in an impactful way. I'm proud to advance my storytelling ability through works like "Rebuilding Ra", "Poor Clare" and now "The Sea".

PROUDEST MOMENTS



BUILD A COMMUNITY & SHOWCASE ART

I think I've very good at making sense of a concept or strategy idea. At CultureBugg, we've had misalignments on the meaning and intention behind the content we produce. Through clear communication my team was able to leverage their ideas to strengthen our community calls to action. Taking us from 200 followers to 1400+ in four months.

PROUDEST MOMENTS

DIRECTING

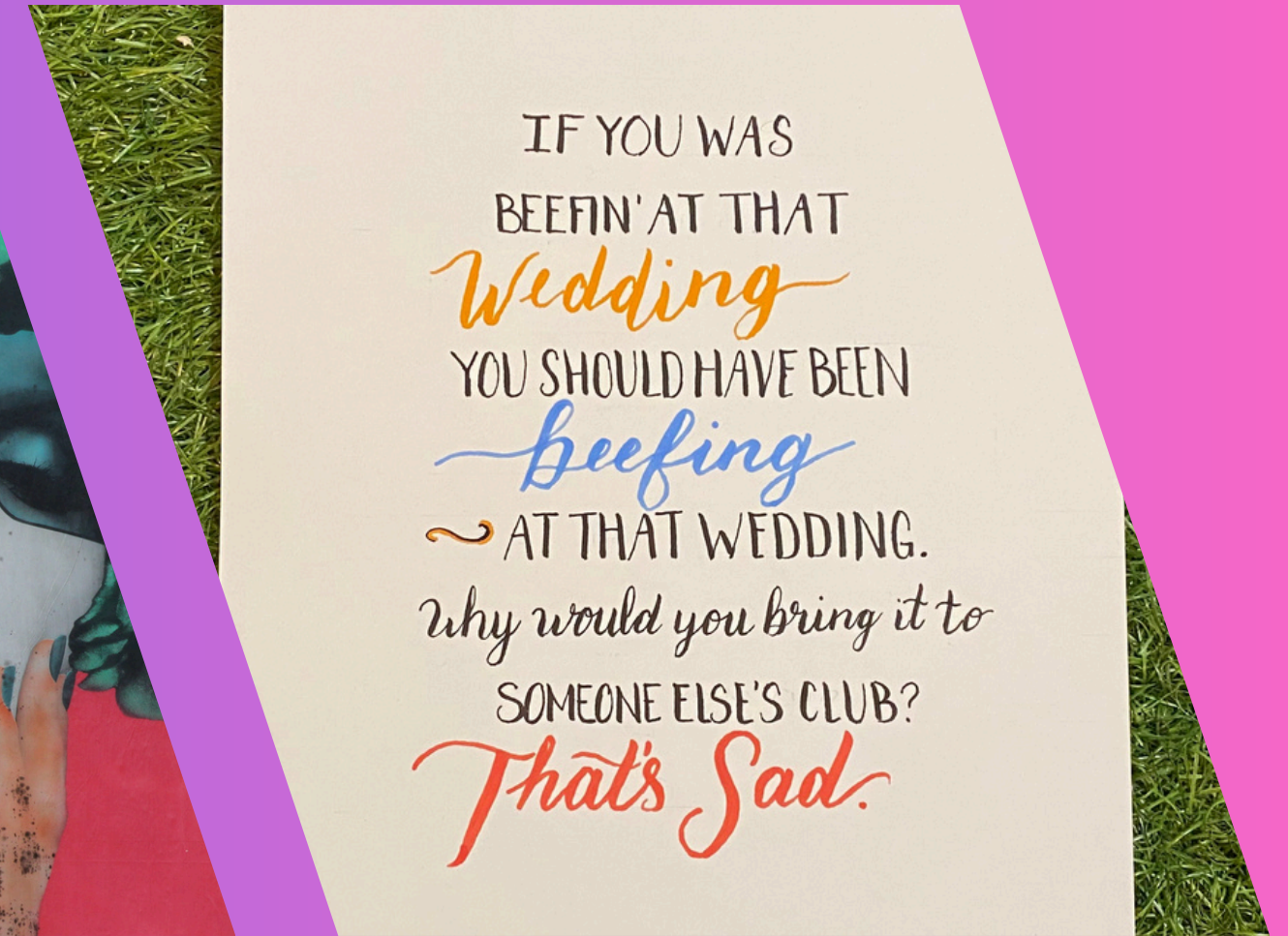
How not to be sterile and predictable. But know when to stop.



CRITIQUE PREFERENCES

WRITING

How to build commitment to intrigue, pace, and character.



CRITIQUE PREFERENCES

ACTING

How to showcase raw emotion. Even when you don't feel it.



CRITIQUE PREFERENCES

OUTCOMES

How to develop into a creative that centers memorable experiences.



CRITIQUE PREFERENCES

FAVORITE SONG FROM A MUSICAL

Oh, to be a Stephen Sondheim composition. My favorite song from a musical is Sunday in the Park with George's "We Do Not Belong Together." It showcases the raw emotion of misaligned relationships, tells of the power art has over creatives, and for some reason decided NOT to hold the sustained B-flat 5 on Dot's final "we" long enough to feel resolved (probably intentional, since that unresolved note matches how unfinished her and George's relationship feels 🤔).

The lasting consequences of choosing work (art) over love.

SHORT REVIEWS

FAVORITE SANDWICH

And on the 8th day, the good Lord said, “Let them make a Pesto Chicken Caprese.” I absolutely love the complexity and simplicity of this sandwich. The first time I had pesto was in Italy during college, and I haven’t stopped eating it since. You can also enjoy a simple Pesto Caprese with three ingredients: pesto, tomatoes, and mozzarella cheese. Eat it cold. Eat it hot. Just eat it. Add chicken, swap for sun-dried tomatoes, or add olive oil and really make it a magical moment. It’s savory and worth every penny earned.

SHORT REVIEWS

LAST MOVIE I SAW

Ari Aster's "Hereditary." Much can be said for a film that leaves a little girl's head decaying in the street. Cinematically dark, visually safe, and most importantly, transfixing. This story about the breakdown of family history and legacy is one you don't see coming. You don't know who to root for as each minute passes. You certainly can't imagine where you'll land by the end. It's The Shining meets DARK. No jump scares, just dread so dense it vibrates. There are no bathroom breaks with this film. You blink, and you've missed something sacred...or sinister.

SHORT REVIEWS