Film

Committee Director

Overview

- This position is a volunteer leadership position with the Wisconsin Union Directorate (WUD) student programming board.
- Each committee of WUD is committed to amplifying the voices of underrepresented communities through thoughtful and deliberate programming that targets societal issues. WUD leaders have an obligation to use the privilege of our organization and the power of our positions to continually educate ourselves and provide the same opportunities to our communities.
- Successful applicants for WUD Leadership positions will demonstrate a commitment to social justice during the interview process. Upon selection, WUD Leaders will commit to committee process and programming efforts that continually address the inequalities our campus, country, and global communities face due to racial, environmental, societal, and other types of discrimination.
- Given the significant time commitment of WUD Committee Director positions (20 – 25 hours, weekly), a stipend is provided to increase the likelihood these volunteer leadership positions are accessible to all students. An academic stipend provides 60% of yearly in-state tuition based on the prior year and will be distributed at the beginning of each semester. The stipend amount is based on in-state tuition, regardless of your own student status of in-state or out-of-state. Additionally, $50/month is provided on the student’s Wiscard for 8 months in gratitude for each student’s service. Students also receive a Lifetime Union Membership upon completion of their terms.
- WUD Committee Director Positions run May – May yearly and include one mandatory, three-day training in August.

Committee Purpose

The Wisconsin Union Directorate Film Committee is dedicated to bringing a diverse, innovative, and exciting lineup of movies to the University of Wisconsin – Madison campus and surrounding community. The committee also serves as a professional development experience for its members to explore aspects of film production, distribution, and exhibition industries. The Film Committee researches, plans, coordinates, publicizes and manages over 300 film screenings and special events in the Marquee Theater—films shown include major studio, documentary, art house, experimental, international, and cult classics. Additionally, the Film Committee programs Lakeside Cinema each summer, an outdoor film series on the Memorial Union Terrace. WUD Film provides campus with free "sneak previews" of new releases and assists Wisconsin Film Festival with programming suggestions and venue volunteers.

General Responsibilities of a WUD Director

- Begin meeting weekly with your committee advisor in the period between your selection and the end of the spring semester.
- Begin recruitment and selection of Associate Directors (ADs) between your selection and the end of spring semester. Train them in the responsibilities of their role. Train them in the responsibilities of their role.
- With your advisor, Develop and submit a budget for the first six weeks of fall semester by the end of June.
- Chair weekly meetings of the committee and leadership team during the academic year. Attend weekly meetings with your committee advisor. Hold additional meetings as needed.
- Hold general office hours in Memorial Union or Union South (typically 10 hours per week).
- Participate in weekly Directorate meetings, using officers and fellow directors as resources. Perform action items as required. Participate in cooperative WUD projects and activities.
- Serve on a Union Council Advisory Board (generally one meeting per month).
- Work with your team to establish individual and committee goals and procedures for programming.
- Responsible for the oversight, direction and all administrative aspects of the committee program, including individual program budgets and the overall committee budget.
- Assess and evaluate individual programs and processes of the committee.
- Be responsive to and maintain communication with your advisor, ADs, committee members, and other Union representatives (such as Union Officers, Marketing, Campus Event Services, etc.)
- Actively communicate with Union Officers about the needs and goals of the committee.
- Follow the policies and procedures of the Wisconsin Union, Directorate, and the committee.
- Promote Directorate committees and the organization at the student fairs and other recruitment opportunities, including Wisconsin Welcome events that take place over Labor Day weekend.
- Build a sense of community within the committee by fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for all committee members.
- Actively recruit committee members and develop a sustained and growing committee membership.
- Directly involve committee members in all aspects of planning and enacting programs.
- Familiarize committee members with available resources and encourage them to utilize these materials to strengthen programming and curate an intentional, inclusive and responsible program.
- Organize a benchmarking trip or workshops to build committee knowledge and skill.
- Encourage committee members to apply for leadership positions.
- Solicit ideas, input, and opinions from both the committee and external sources (collaborators, campus departments, and community members) to inform committee programming.
- Increase campus presence by pursuing opportunities to coordinate, publicize and host collaborative programs within WUD and throughout the campus community with Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) and campus departments.
- Ensure all digital materials are stored on the committee Google Drive or the Union’s shared drive.
- Review and update the onboarding materials for the incoming director.
- Participate in the spring WUD Welcome and Directorate meetings, annual WUD Fall Retreat (3 days in late-August), facilitate AD training, and participate in additional leadership training as mandated by the officer team.

**Committee-Specific Responsibilities of the Director**

- Oversee weekly film events
- With assistance from the advisor, develop a thorough understanding of the college/non-theatrical/independent film distribution networks and commercial film industry.
- Work closely with the summer coordinator to organize a successful summer film series, and ensure they have the resources to implement, market and evaluate this plan.
- Ensure the Film Committee is adequately promoting all programs, and establishing relationships with Wisconsin Union marketing and communications.
- Potential collaborators include:
  - Wisconsin Film Festival
  - UW Cinematheque
  - Communication Arts Department
  - Social Cinema
  - Polish Film Festival
  - Multicultural Student Center
  - Wisconsin Science Festival
  - UW Family Weekend
  - Gender and Sexuality Campus Center
  - Center for Leadership & Involvement
  - WUD Film alumni
  - Entertainment industry professionals

*Last Updated: December 2023*