Emily Kopchains

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<center>Alliance Theater – Virtual Education Internship</center>

In this virtual summer camp through the Alliance Theater, I will be working in online classroom spaces with Alliance Theatre Teaching Artists to assist in classroom tasks and putting on a virtual performance at the end of every camp week. Throughout my weeks working with Alliance, I hope to gain skills in classroom management, directorial techniques, acting techniques, theatre games, conflict resolution and virtual teaching techniques. Some tasks and projects I expect to take on mostly involve the set up and management of the virtual classroom itself, communicating with higher staff the attendance and occupation of various Zoom accounts and breakout rooms. What I think will be most beneficial is seeing how such a large and successful theater company has adapted an entire summer's worth of programming to the virtual setting. Even now, before my internship has actually started, I have already learned a good amount about effective communication and how crucial it is when everyone is in their own remote settings. Seeing the current state of the world and how much it has already shaken up this industry, I think learning these kinds of skills from companies such as Alliance and adapting their kind of forward thinking is what will help revive the arts in the future. Having the summer online also adds a whole new layer to the traditional summer camp atmosphere, so I can see these communication efforts also coming in to play when working with the campers. With activities that bounce between solely virtual / on Zoom calls and at-home solo activities, it will be very interesting to see how the campers and students themselves react to this new kind of setting.

I am working the morning camp shifts from 8:30-noon, with daily staff meetings at 12:30, some of which I will be able to sit in on in the efforts to learn more about their COVID efforts. With this schedule for 5 weeks, I should work an estimate of 100 hours. My supervisor is Robert Hindsman.