"UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM" General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 25, 2024, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 29

Overview:

- Team updates will be discussed at our next general meeting on 07/9/2024
- Procedure for the meeting protocol with a guest speaker and for asking questions
- Information about tonight's topic, guest speaker, and introduction
- Group discussion

Notes:

- Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM EST The 6/11/2024 meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the <u>website</u>.
- 2. Introduction and welcome to our guest speaker Kendra Phillips.
 - www.kendrawrights.com

Kendra is an emerging playwright from the Seattle area. She is the literary manager for Northwest Playwrights Alliance and a member and frequent dramaturg with <u>Vashon</u> <u>Repertory Theatre</u>. Kendra seeks to tell the stories of people on the margins of society through a redemptive lens. Kendra's style is heavily influenced by absurdist theatre and avant-garde music of the 20th century. Her work has been shaped by her faith, her own journey with mental health, and her previous work with struggling students in the public schools. She currently works at the Seattle Repertory Theatre. She has previously worked as an educator and music director with Youth Theatre Northwest. Kendra holds an MFA (theatre arts, emphasis in dramatic writing) from the University of Idaho, a BFA (acting/directing) and a BMA (composition focused) from Pacific Lutheran University.

- 3. Discussion and group questions.
 - Kendra is working on a play concerning the journey of a young man incarcerated for a sex crime, as well as the journey of his best friend as she processes and supports him through this. She explained how she came to write this story and the importance of how theater lets us experience other people's worlds and explore together what it is to be human. Kendra wants her play to show that every person is worthy and to reach people with the message of their worth. She spoke about her challenges in writing a story about this subject, her aims with the play, and how she was not expecting the journey that this play has taken her on. She shared a monologue from her play where the setting was the sentencing courtroom experience.
 - Questions were asked and answered regarding Kendra's play, her processes of writing, and establishing a timeline for getting a play produced. The entire process takes years with drafts, group reviews, and getting actors involved. There is feedback and revisions, then the marketing process begins. Choosing cities for the play involves lots of networking and finding theaters, and word of mouth is helpful too. This subject matter presents unique challenges and opportunities.
 - Kendra can be reached via email at philliki1@gmail.com

9:01 p.m. Adjourn Meeting

The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 7:30 p.m. EST