

Let's plan a show or a gig-- Don Simons for NESI-22

This will be a participating workshop for the planning that should go into preparing a performance show or a gig. Proper planning your gig will result in more fun and more success. It just makes it better for the musicians and the audience, and will bring future gigs. We will consider the playlist, of course, but also all the other factors that will improve the possibility of a successful gig. I.E. players, rehearsals, costuming (if any), the playbook, the venue, equipment, contacts, the expected audience, and other factors.

Participants will be expected to provide input from their own experiences, for the benefit of all. We will plan a complete gig during the workshop for some possible gig, using a planning sheet.

- 1 "If you haven't written it down, you don't have a plan"
- 2 Prior Planning Produces Prettier Performances (PPPPP)
- 3 If you plan well, You'll seldom have to say "OOPS"
- 4 Success without a plan is a dumb accident. Don't count on that.

Your (written) plan should be enough complete so that #2 can do it, in case for some reason you are unable.

GIG PLANNING SHEET

Name of the Gig: _____

Location/Venue _____

Date/Time/Duration _____

Contact name, Phone _____

Audience _____

Special Occasion or theme: _____

Documentation (Invoice, Contract/W-9): _____

Players/Instr./ _____

Rehearsals / _____

Accommodations (food, parking, Breaks) Will musicians be fed? Paid?

Logistics: Specific address, Special instructions about parking/access/egress, use of front/side/rear entrance. Are stairs involved? Elevator? Power outlets? Where is the bathroom?

The Playlist: -- see separate page:

Equipment Checklist: /

Mics Amps/ Cables

/Stands

/Stand Lights

/Charts

/Costume/Flags

The Playlist (Guidelines):

- A. Warm-up/Sound Check song(s)**
- B. Greetings, Short Identification.. Smile.**
- C. Opening-Peppy, happy, stirring, exciting. (Polka or March)**
- D. Continuity though variable instruments/tempo/mode/beat**
- E. Mix-it-up. Avoid songs that are similar being adjacent (i.e. not more than 2 Sinatra or Elvis songs unless in a medley, then move-on.**
- F. Pick songs you know you have scores for, and that your musicians know.**
- G. Allow space for changes like “happy birthday”, etc**
- H. Plan more music than you can do, so that some is extra**
- I. Start and end on time—keep a clock in front of you.**
- J. Observe the audience—are they tending to dance and sing along, or are they trying to ignore you. Are you interfering with their discussions. Are they smiling? Are they more responsive to tunes from their generation or folk songs or patriotic?**
- K. End on a patriotic or reflective/inspirational song.**
- L. Don’t save your best song for the encore.**
- M. Plan some extra songs, Just-in-case.**
- N. Put ALL the charts(scores) into a binder for the gig, in order, with an index, so that simply turning a page brings up the next tune.**
- O. Print the (final) playlist for every musician, including each song’s KEY**
- P. Try to completely complete all these factors, including rehearsal from the final playlist by the day before the gig; get a shower and a good night’s rest before the gig, and then DO IT WITH FULL CONFIDENCE!**

Playlist for () GIG

Date	Time	Venue	Group	Dress	<u>Song</u>	<u>Key</u>
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Warm Up/Sound Check

Opening(time)

Greeting:

- 1. .
- 2. .
- 3. .
- 4. .
- 5. .
- 6. .
- 7. .
- 8. .
- 9. .
- 10. .
- 11. .
- 12. .
- 13. .
- 14. .
- 15. .
- 16. .
- 17. .
- 18. .
- 19. .

Closing:

Extras: