

Jeffrey Jarzombek, Bannaroo Music Festival, Internship Summer 2017

Describe your experience at the music festival?

The experience at the festival was great. It was a really good learning opportunity to see how much work goes into music festivals. I and 19 other externs (interns essentially) were tasked with helping set up and working the VIP/Platinum areas inside the festival. This set up included building signs, decorating lounges, all tasks that matched a pre-designed blueprint and we had to do this just days before the festival opened. Then once the festival began, each of us was assigned to two or three different shifts per day, ranging from five to eight hours per shift. These shifts were everything from working as a Platinum concierge, serving as information trailer assistants, working catering, and more. We interns essentially got a feel for every position available at the festival. After working, we were free to use our staff, VIP, and Platinum wristbands to attend shows and use any facilities associated with those bands.

Was their training for your position?

We were at Bonnaroo for seven days. There was no training for the position, however there was an interview process to get the position. The jobs varied inside the VIP or Platinum areas but some specific positions included: Ice Sales, T-Shirt/Poster giveaway, Catering, Campground Lounge Assistant, Center-Area Lounge Assistant, Information Trailer Assistant, and VIP Mound. Each of these gave insight into a different piece of how the festival is run.

What was the best experience and the worst experience?

I would say the best experience was getting to have front-row/pit Main Stage access for the headlining performers each night. This was a privilege that is given to externs where you are escorted to the front row (which is normally impossible to get to unless you wait in a queue for about seven hours). There was no "worst" experience, however the first night we arrived it had just rained a lot so the whole festival ground was muddy, which made work slightly more annoying.

I would absolutely do this externship again and I highly recommend anyone interested in music festivals/industry to apply as well.







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JUNE 7-10, 2018