

POTS Board Meeting MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

POTS Board Meeting

- Tech Reps - *Deanna Raso* and *Cynthia Solis Yi*
- Communications Secretary - *Carmen Lamar Gonzalez Daehler*
- Financial Manager - *Rosalie Erlich*
- Tech Secretary - *Amy Weisenbach*
- AP Technical Theater - *Eli Schreiner*
- Tech Alum: Victoria, Ryan '24, Yoni '15, Isaiah, Victoria, Emily, Diara, Mary Kate

Welcome

- The meeting started at 6:03pm
- Meeting recording [here](#); passcode: 7pBhL4=*
- Questions? Email us here: lagshpa.tech@laguardiahspa.org

1. **Welcome and a few misc. updates**

- **POTS Board.** We would like to invite all of you to consider joining us on the POTS Exec Board. If you have interest in learning more, please reach out to Cynthia or any member of the current POTS board. [Here is a list](#) of all of the roles. There are big roles and small roles with different levels of time commitment and flexibility on when you can help. Carmen's son is graduating, and she does so much for POTS. We really need some new folks to join us. I hope you'll consider it.

Need Tech Students to Sign Up for more jobs. There are a lot of shows coming up, especially SDFs and Eli let us know he needs more people to sign up for additional jobs. Students can go to the "Matrix" where you sign up for roles and you can see what's available. There are many open positions on SDFs - if you already have a position and can't do another one, ok, but if you can add a job, please consider it. Spot ops, Deck Electricians, Drapers, Stitchers. If we aren't able to get enough tech students, we'll have to open the jobs to students in other studios.

USITT Trip Go Fund Me. The students and teachers attending the upcoming USITT trip are still accepting donations to support the trip [here](#).

Tech Newsletter [here](#).

2. Tech Alumni joined to share their post-LAG experiences.

- **Yoni.** While at LAG worked on Sleep No More - ran lights for the show and other misc. jobs. Also did an internship at a recording studio. Ended up looking at SUNY Buffalo (tech production) or Drexel (electrical engineering). Went to Drexel. It's a 5-year program, but has 3 co-ops (6 month long internships). You graduate with 1.5 years of real work experience. Downside is that you don't have summers. Between Fr and So years, worked for PRG, Production Resource Group as a lighting intern in their shop. (worked in all the different depts and worked on productions around LA - Universal Studios, TV shows, AGT load-ins and more) For first co-op, worked at LDG Lighting Design Group in Chelsea - design lighting systems for broadcast studios (CNN, NBC, Fox, Bloomberg installs). Then with TAIT (where I work full time now, in Lititz, PA) - an automation company that specializes in entertainment industry. Top tier of industry - do a lot of big concert tours (Taylor, Beyonce, half time shows, etc.). Controls Integration position - take all the pieces of a project and figure out how it all goes together and hand it over to client to take over in execution. Worked on new ride on Top of the Rock (installed it), live show for How to Train Your Dragon, Adele's residency in Las Vegas, big show at Disney, UBS arena, scoreboard at Wells Fargo arena and more.
- **Isaiah. 2018.** Attended University of Chicago for computer science and now work in Software Engineering
- **Mary Kate. 2018** Went to Syracuse and now in law school at Syracuse. Still doing internships and things like that. Didn't do any tech stuff in college.
- **Emily '24.** Currently at RIT for engineering technology. Have to do co-ops like Yoni's program. Did lighting at LAG and actually talking to Yoni inspired me to look at engineering. I work at a theater on campus and for another org that supports live events. Master electrician on a show right now.
- **Ryan '24** Go to the [Chippendale School for Furniture](#). Halfway through 3 terms. First term is introduction - re-introduce you to the tools. Thought I knew everything, but realized I had a lot to learn. This year built a cherry cabinet. Program attracts people from different creative fields (fashion, art) - furniture is interactive art - you don't need to be into woodworking to get into furniture design. Designing furniture is so different than designing for theater.
- **Diara,** Working in bio chemistry and tech. Tech is still a big part of their life. Tech is often used in everyday life. While doing tech you learn a LOT of skills that you use in the real world. The tech program really helped with time management skills, managing things in and beyond college was a ton easier after living through tech. Being able to time manage extracurriculars and schoolwork is insanely valuable. Tech taught students to fight for their passions and apply for jobs and work that inspired them, even if they were first rejected.

Were you guys always this motivated?

- Not necessarily, many students responded that their motivation came with maturity and finding the thing they were passionate about which you can't rush/force.
- The things they learned from Laguardia really taught them community and hard work. Learned passion and became familiar with the feeling of a work family because of tech.

Are there any LAG classes you wish you would have taken or programs you wish you did?

- More tech!
- Calculus, helps in college
- Bioethics, changed their perspective of life completely. (note: the teacher for this class moved to be the AP of Math & Science and it's changed a lot since she ran it.)
- Take history classes, If you work in any trade or art in the future, knowing history is incredibly helpful for design
- It's all about challenging yourself, take hard classes that may inspire you in the future!
- To parents: students in tech have difficult days with long hours. To keep them motivated sometimes you just have to accept the work they are doing. Marvel in their brilliance!

3. **Next Meeting:**

- Our next POTS meeting is not schedule yet but stay tuned to SNN or our Whatsapp channel for updates.