

PERFORMANCE RIDER

“A NIGHT WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA” (Reggie Brown)

These requirements are essential to the success of the performance.
All production and rider costs are the sole responsibility of the Purchaser.

1. STAGING:

- a. Preferably, minimum stage size of 12 feet deep by 16 feet wide with steps on both sides and the front and rear of the stage. If stairs do not have banisters, for the safety and liability of anyone on stage, please mark the location of the stairs with reflective tape.
- b. Preferably, presidential blue pipe and drape running the full length at the rear of the stage.
- c. One United States flag behind the podium.
- d. One high quality lighted lectern/podium.

2. AUDIO/VISUAL:

Note: House systems with ceiling speakers are not acceptable since they are mostly designed for amplification of speeches, lectures, and the like.

Microphones:

- a. One wireless lavalier microphone for impersonator.
- b. One back-up wireless microphone.
- c. One wired or wireless microphone with adjustable stand attached for audience interaction.

First class sound system consisting of:

- d. A mixing board with no less than four input channels.
- e. Amplifier(s) sufficiently strong enough to provide clear sound to the room and monitors.
- f. 1/3 octave equalizer(s) to enhance the sound quality to the room and/or monitors.
- g. Four quality speakers for the house (two, if audience is 100 or less), to be situated high enough off the ground (at least five feet) as to not blow away audience members sitting up front.
- h. Sound operator.

Multimedia PowerPoint:

- i. Minimally one, preferably two, large PowerPoint screens with applicable projectors located on each side of the stage.

NOTE: PowerPoint contains audio and visual media

- j. One wireless PowerPoint remote provided to Artist.

3. LIGHTING EQUIPMENT:

Note: Overhead "track" lights are not acceptable and will not sufficiently light the stage.

- a. Full stage wash appropriate for venue. This is easily provided by theater settings, but for hotel ballrooms and the like, additional lighting is usually required.

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- b. Spotlight/s are highly recommended for Artist's entrance for larger audiences.

- c. Fixtures (two or more Lekos or Par cans) of at least 2,000 watts. If the throw is more than 60 feet you should add another 1,000 watts.
- d. Lights should be on trees or an overhead truss.
- e. Lights require a dedicated 20 amp circuit, 25 amps if 3000 watts are used.

Note to lighting tech: There are no lighting cues during the show but the coordination of the house lights (which should be dimmed during the performance) and stage lights should be discussed with Technical Director prior to the show.

4. DRESSING ROOM REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Green Room to have table, 1 chair, full length mirror, clothes rack and working electrical outlets. Wireless internet appreciated.
- b. Basic hospitality to include sandwiches with condiments, chips, crackers, cheese, bottled water, soft drinks, napkins, glasses, straws, silverware, etc.

5. SOUND CHECK & REHEARSAL TIME:

- a. Artist requires a sound check before audience members are allowed into the venue. The sound check, requiring two hours, should be scheduled at approximately 3:00pm in the afternoon for an evening show, earlier in the day if morning or luncheon performance. Although, testing microphones and setting sound levels usually takes only about fifteen to twenty minutes, Artist often uses the remaining time to rehearse new material.
- b. If Artist cannot access the room prior to the performance: Be sure to check sound volume on each microphone. The sound system should be nice and loud with an operator on duty to make adjustments during the performance, if necessary and to cue audio.

6. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Surprise is the most effective way to introduce the Artist. Audiences are most vulnerable when taken completely off guard. Let as few people in your organization or audience know about their appearance as possible.
- b. Artist requires an introduction. Artist will provide a custom introduction closer to performance dates as sometimes they are updated due to current events.

Standard Introduction:

"Ladies and gentlemen, a very special guest has taken time out of their hectic schedule to be with us and we are truly honored. Please welcome our special guest."

NOTE: Please do not mention Washington, President Obama, or anything political; it will telegraph the hoax, lessening the impact of Artist's entrance.

- c. Artist will provide a playable CD with "Hail to the Chief", for entrance and exit music.

In the case that there is no PowerPoint presentation: Sound operator to begin playing:

"Hail to the Chief" nice and loud immediately after introduction. As Artist reaches lectern/podium sound operator slowly turns volume down volume until completely off.

After a short statement, Artist demands a second introduction. Once Artist is completely off stage and out of audience view, replay "Hail to the Chief". As Artist reaches lectern/podium sound operator slowly turns volume down volume until completely off.

Replay "Hail to the Chief" immediately upon conclusion of performance and until Artist exits room.

- d. For additional effect, Artist recommends at least two "Security Agents" in dark suits, white shirts, and dark ties – preferably with white ear pieces (no sun glasses, please!)

7. ADDITIONAL NOTES:

If there is to be dancing after the performance, the dance floor should not be placed in front of the stage! The number one rule in presenting comedy is the Artist needs to have the audience as close to as possible. A dance floor puts up a comedic barrier between Artist and the audience.

- a. Audience must be seated at all times. Every effort will be made to seat the audience as closely together as possible and fill up as much of the area close to the stage and surrounding the stage.

- b. Artist will not perform while:

Dinner is being served or while people are going through a buffet line. (This may seem very basic, but with the audience sitting at a round table, half the audience has their back turned towards the stage, one can't laugh with their mouth full and you want minimize distractions.)

While tables and plates are being cleared.

- c. All food and beverage related services are to be terminated while Artist is performing, including but not limited to:

Bar service terminated
Food service terminated, including all waiters
No tables are to be cleared
No equipment is to be broken down

Please be sure to inform the venue event manager of this requirement.

- d. Prior to the Artist's introduction you should not announce any negative news such as:

layoffs, downsizing, personnel terminations, etc.
deaths, sickness or misfortunes of co-workers
loss of contracts, reorganizations, etc.
(This may sound obvious, but this has happened on numerous occasions. The more upbeat, fun, positive atmosphere that the Artist performs in, the more successful the event will be.)

- e. No groups are allowed to stand and congregate in the rear of the room while Artist is performing.
- f. The meeting planner will not schedule an intermission between the dinner and Artist's performance. (After a long day, a large part of the audience doesn't return because they are tired or need to freshen up which in turn greatly diminishes the Artist's impact on the remainder of the audience. It is highly recommended that you present awards or conduct any business earlier in the day or after the entertainment has performed or you risk losing part of your audience. Why spend good money on entertainment only to have the Artist perform for a small fraction of the potential audience? Artists do not like to be blamed for an impaired performance due to poor planning.)
- g. Conventions which children in attendance must maintain strict control of the children in attendance to keep from distracting the rest of the audience.

8. VIDEO:

It is imperative to inform the Artist if you plan to video the Artist's program for future internal reference (not for commercial or resale use).

Please check one of the following:

_____ Yes, we are interested in shooting a video of the Artist's program. The video will only be used for internal archival purposes and will not be reproduced for commercial or resale purposes. We agree to provide a copy of this video to Artist within ten (10) days following the program.

The video should be shot in digital format, and provided to Artist in DVD format.

It is mandatory (and for your benefit as well) the AV personnel use a stereo mixer for the audio portion of the recording. A minimum of two microphones are to be used to record the audience's reaction.

The Artist's voice will be recorded on the other channel.

_____ No, we will not be shooting video of the Artist's program.

Failure to comply with the above guidelines could be a violation of Federal Copyright Laws.

NOTE: While some of the above terms and conditions may sound demanding, all are necessary to produce a memorable, successful event. Artists want to be presented in the most professional means possible as it reflects on their reputation.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED THAT PURCHASER WILL NOT ADD TO, DELETE FROM, OR MAKE ALTERATIONS IN THE CONTRACT RIDER WITHOUT PRIOR, WRITTEN CONSENT OF ARTIST.

Purchaser: _____

Accepted by: _____