

Plan a Poetry Slam

Scenario and Budget Plan

Last week Bree and Akisha went to a concert. While they were there, they were asked to donate to an animal shelter to keep homeless animals cared for and well fed until they are adopted. Bree and Akisha were very interested, but didn't have any money.

After discussions with their parents about donating their own money, the girls decided to do something even bigger to raise even more money for homeless animals. So they talked to their teachers and principal about holding a fundraiser at school. They learned about small grants at available for those who wanted to plan service projects or fundraisers. The girls looked online and learned that they could apply for a grant for \$500. It wasn't hard to fill out the application so they quickly got to work.

The principal, Ms. Bennett agreed to the plan, and offered the school as a venue for the event—with one condition. "If you decide to hold this event at the school it has to be educational for everyone involved."

So after talking it over with their English teacher, Mr. Zimmerman, the girls decided on holding a poetry slam. "In class, we are reading the poems of Eduardo Johnson Ramos," he said. "Why don't you call or write a letter asking if he'll come in and read some of his poems that night? Sometimes authors have a speaking fee, so let him know that this is a charity event. Maybe he'll reduce the fee since it's for a good cause."

After a phone call with Mr. Ramos, the girls learned that Mr. Ramos would only charge them \$100 for the night.

It was a great start.

The girls decided that if they got the grant, they could hold the poetry slam event at a restaurant instead of in the school cafeteria. They talked to a restaurant owner who said she would allow them to use her banquet room for \$350, and that price includes the cost of food, but not drinks. The restaurant banquet room holds 70 people. They discussed charging the guests \$5 each as an entrance fee to cover costs and to go toward the animal shelter.

As the girls excitedly began to plan the event and their outreach, they realized that they needed to pull together a budget. You can help them plan. Some information is in the scenario, and the rest you find by doing some research to fill in the cost of each item. Don't forget to multiply by the number of people, and add in a \$5 cover charge.



ITEM	COST	EARNINGS
Venue - school		
Venue - restaurant		
Special guest		
Tickets		
Printing announcements		
Sound system		
Snacks		
Beverages		
Stage decorations		
Grant		
Cover charge		
Donations (money/items)		

