

PLANNING AND PREPARATION FOR “The Amazing Race - Rocking All religions”

Natalie spent more than 100 hours planning, emailing, and scheduling. Here's her description of the preparation that went into her event:

MAKING CONTACTS

In April 2017, I met with the Rabbi of my temple to see if they would support my project and provide use of the facilities for free. The Rabbi said yes, and we picked November 12, 2017 for the event.

After that, I searched the internet and emailed dozens of religious experts asking if they would volunteer to work each station. I even went to a Thai Chi class and got trained in meditation in order to find the perfect speakers for the Hindu and Taoist stations. Once I had the speakers set, I worked with each person to plan a fun activity for the attendees.

To help lead the groups of kids around at my event, I recruited CSF (California Scholarship Federation) members from my local high school.

I met again with the Rabbi and asked her to give a talk on religious tolerance.

MARKETING

Then I made flyers and made connections with people from the Girl Scout Headquarters. A marketing team helped get my flyer onto the Girl Scout website. I also invited the Boy Scouts, so I gave out flyers for their meetings. I spoke at meetings and put up flyers at my school. I want this to be a community event and invite youth groups of different faiths. The president of my temple helped me get connections with places of worship. Also, I searched the internet for local religious youth groups and emailed them an invitation.

FUNDING

I met with the manager of Traitor Joe's, and they agreed to donate some food for a station. In addition, I applied for a 2017 Be Inspired Service Grant and won. The grant helped me purchase supplies and patches.

CLUE PACKETS

I created the clue packets for each group, by making unique clues for all of the 7 stations. I also went to Kinko's to print large signs for each country. Some other tasks I did were putting all of the attendees into groups, which all had names that symbolized peace (rainbow, peace, white poppy, olive branch, dove, shalom, and paper cranes), AND making a post-event evaluation.

THE DAY OF THE RACE

On November 12th before the event started, I helped get the station speakers set-up. I gave a tour to the CSF members and explained their roles. When the attendees started to arrive, I worked at the check-in table, collected photo releases, gave out PRAY "To Serve God" information, and greeted everybody.

I gave a short speech explaining the event, agenda, and introduced the Rabbi. That was followed by the Rabbi talking about religious tolerance and explaining things inside the synagogue.

When the Rabbi was done, I directed everyone to their groups and The Race officially began. Below is a timetable of events. I texted all of the CSF students when it was time to rotate.

1:30-1:45	Check-in
1:45-1:50	Natalie welcome
1:50-2:10	Rabbi to speak on religious tolerance (20 min)
2:10-2:20	Rabbi to teach about sanctuary/torah
2:20-2:25	Natalie to put people in groups
2:25-2:30	Rotate
2:30-2:44	First Rotation
2:44-2:46	Rotate
2:46-3:00	Second Rotation
3:00-3:03	Rotate
3:03-3:17	Third Rotation
3:17-3:19	Rotate
3:19-3:33	Forth Rotation
3:33-3:35	Rotate
3:35-3:49	Fifth Rotation
3:49-3:51	Rotate
3:51-3:53	6 th Rotation
3:53-3:55	Rotate
3:55-3:19	7 th Rotation
4:20-4:30	Farewell

AFTER THE RACE

I wrote thank you notes and bought gifts for all of the speakers. Soon I will be making a patch for the Girl Scout attendees.