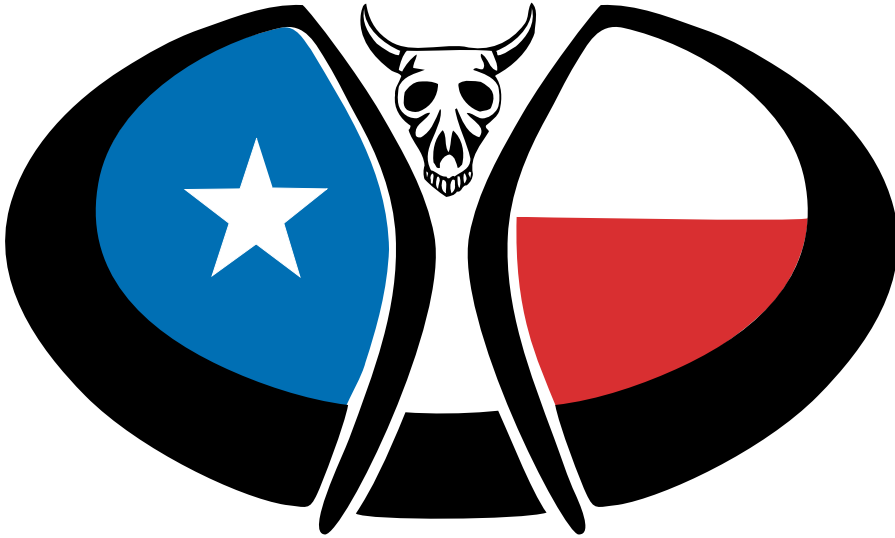


So You Wanna Be The Design and
Fabrication Team (DaFT) Lead?



Introduction

This document is intended to go over some of the typical questions that DaFT Leads have that, for whatever reason, tend to be specific to the DaFT team. The answers given in this document also apply to other teams and leads, this isn't DaFT specific other than the fact that this team is the one that tends to ask these questions while other teams don't. Additionally, the DaFT lead is selected differently than other leads which can result in coming in out of cycle, so this document helps serve as a refresher/orientation for what is covered in some meetings the DaFT lead may have missed.

Disclaimer

This document applies to Burning Flipside leads generally and DaFT leads in particular. It is not intended to serve as a guide for general participants or other events. Catalyst Collective and Austin Artistic Reconstruction, LLC provide no warranty if this document is used outside of its intended use.

This document is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 license. For more details see here: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>.

How do I become DaFT Lead?

Directly after fall townhall, the organization will put out a request for an effigy design. This design should meet certain requirements (see the email for a list of these requirements) and should be at least somewhat related to the theme selected by the community at townhall.

Once you have a design, you need to put together a proposal. This proposal should include as much detail about the design as possible (you don't need a full CAD diagram or anything at this stage, but if you have one that is better). It should also include the names of people you've asked to help you manage this build and what their role in the build will be. Include details on what will happen if we cannot burn the design and how you plan to clean up after a burn and any other details requested in the email.

Once you have the proposal put together you will submit it to the DaFT Selection Committee (DSC). This is a group comprised of former DaFT Leads. These are people that have actual experience building an effigy at Flipside and have some skill at design and engineering of a structure.

The DSC will review the proposals submitted and judge them based on feasibility, aesthetics, and how well the design lines up to the requirements. After that is done, the DSC will recommend a proposal to the board. The board will then review it for safety or legal concerns before approving the proposal.

At this point the proposals that were not selected will be informed, and then the proposal that was selected will be informed. And that proposal submitter will now be the DaFT Lead.

Other events have a foreman/build lead/other position on the org chart.

What does Flipside have?

For the most part, Flipside thinks that the DaFT lead should get to choose their team. If there are personality conflicts, design issues, or aesthetic concerns, we feel the DaFT lead should be the one responsible for making the decisions around this area and not be in conflict with someone from the org over the decision.

There is a DaFT Liaison role in the Art Area whose main responsibility is to help the DaFT lead get acclimatized to the role and to help serve as a repository for institutional knowledge about DaFT.

Additionally, within limits, DaFT Lieutenants are considered “org level” positions, i.e. they can be on the leads list, attend leads meetings, etc. You shouldn’t have an outrageous number that you request to add to the lists; somewhere between 3-5 is reasonable. If you need more than that, please talk to the Art AF about it.

DaFT (or just some DaFTies) want to camp together. Can they?

Sure, within some limits.

What is allowed:

- DaFT camping together in open camping
- DaFT being in a theme camp that includes other people (not just DaFT SOs)

What isn’t allowed:

- An org funded and run DaFT theme camp

Why do we have these restrictions?

There are a lot of reasons. The biggest is that the organization creates as blank a canvas as possible for our participants to build on top of. This means that all¹ art projects and theme camps are treated equally when it comes to support from the organization, placement, volunteers, early arrival, etc. Having org run theme camps for any part of the organization violates this premise.

The second reason is perception. If DaFT spends all day on a construction site surrounded by caution tape and then all night in their own theme camp it enhances the perception that DaFT is an impenetrable clique.

Next, it helps the mental health of volunteers to spread them out through the community. The volunteer’s camp will often cook them a meal when they are unable to do so themselves. The volunteer’s friends and campmates give them an outlet away from people that they have seen all day working and who can help give them perspective. Also, not camping together gives the volunteers a way to leave with less peer pressure². We trust our volunteers to know when they are done and need to

¹ The obvious exception here being the effigy...

² We understand that this is probably the exact opposite of what the DaFT lead wants on site, however it is important for long term burn out of volunteers.

step away, however that is a lot harder to do if they are camped with the people who are still working on the effigy.

There are also other minor concerns such as the aesthetics of having a mostly dark camp near the main effigy field. While these are valid, they mostly don't factor into this calculus.

What is the DaFT budget?

This changes from year to year. You can talk to the Art AF to get the number for that year.

The budget changes (or doesn't) for a variety of factors. For example, the budget has, in the past, been held steady for a year despite the increases in cost due to the effort to scale the effigy back a bit to control DaFT burnout.

DaFT and other leads

There are a lot of things that are needed to make Flipside go besides just an effigy. For example, we need to order equipment such as radios, generators, heavy equipment, and carts. The Equipment Vendor Liaison (EVL) lead in the site ops area does that. They will work with other leads such as DaFT to understand their needs, but they will order the rental equipment.

There is a transpo lead whose job is to make sure that Flipside gets its stuff from the warehouse to the land and back. Again, they will work with other leads like DaFT to understand their needs, but the transpo lead is the one that rents the trucks or trailers to get Flipside infrastructure to the land and back.

There are warehouse managers whose job is to maintain the warehouse and ensure that the structure and tools are in reasonably working order and to do repairs when they are not. They will take input from other leads like DaFT, but it is the warehouse manager's responsibility to make sure these things are maintained.

So, while we tell all the leads that they have a "green field" to play on. That field does have bounds where it runs into another lead's duties. Basically, if you want to do something other than your lead's traditional role (in the case of DaFT lead, build the effigy) ask your AF before you do something to make sure you aren't stepping on another lead's toes.