DCC Capstone Project Proposal

1. Name: Joel Hanson and Edward Waddill
2. Title: The Parable
3. Project thesis/main idea:

For my capstone project, I will be working with Edward Waddill on telling a story through the medium of music and video. Our project will create a story from the viewpoint of two current college students about the events that they encounter in their college lives. With this as the main idea for our project, we feel that many people will be able to relate to the story and therefore will enjoy the experience more than they would if the story were less universal and more personal. College is an experience that everyone viewing this project either has had or is currently having, so everyone should be able to relate on some level to this project. Although the exact details of the story we will tell have not been completely ironed out, the story will follow the two main characters through their notable experiences of college, giving the two differing perspectives of the main characters.

Our project will consist of seven songs and two videos that will tell a story. Each song will add more to the story and one of the songs will have a video to go along with it as to provide a visual aid to more effectively encapsulate the audience in the story. The seven songs will be able to stand alone as an EP, but we also wanted to incorporate video into the project so that it would have more substance and the audience is not merely sitting and listening to a story. The music video will accompany the most important song, that is to say, the song that is most important to the overall story. With the addition of video, we will be able to ensure that the audience does not have to imagine things solely based off of the music that they hear, but because we only have one video that is a representation of a part of the story, the audience will not be robbed of the chance to use their imagination should they so desire.

1. Format project will take:

As previously mentioned, the project at its most basic form will be an EP consisting of seven songs. The song that is most crucial to the story will also have a video to accompany it. We want to make sure that the essence of the story comes across exactly as we want to portray it, but we realize the extreme importance of imagination in storytelling, so we opted to only have one video representing part of the story. However, there will be another video as part of the project. So our audience will be able to get a sense of how we created our project, we have decided that we are going to have a behind-the-scenes style video which will demonstrate our creative process as it pertains to everything from coming up with concepts to making beats, to writing, to recording.

1. Description of project:

Ed and I both have ample experience with creating our own music, so when we talked about what we wanted to do for our final project for DCC, it seemed only natural that we would have music as the centerpiece of our project. Not only do Ed and I have experience with creating music, we also have worked together on musical projects in the past. We have found that our musical styles, while undeniably very different, mesh together extremely well to create a final product. In addition to our experience with music, I have a decent amount of experience with video. We wanted to make our project interesting, so we thought that there was no better way than to put to use our skills in music and video production to tell a story. Another reason that we chose to do both music and video for our project is that we both feel that we can learn from each other in the different aspects. Ed has much more of a background in mixing and mastering than I do, so I am looking forward to learning more about it through practice on this project. Similarly, Ed has little experience with video production and editing, but I have been an active YouTuber for around six years, so naturally, I have learned much over the years. I feel that there are things I can teach Ed in relation to video production and I know that there are things Ed can teach me in mixing and mastering, so working together on this project is a great way for us to learn by experience and hands on trial and error.

1. Skills & tools:

Essential in this project will be audio recording, editing, and mixing and mastering skills along with video production work including shooting and editing digital video. As far as the tools needed to successfully create this project, we have all the things strictly necessary. Ed has all the recording equipment that we would need in order to produce the beats, record the vocals, and edit the entire track, so we do not need anything else for the audio aspect of the project. For the video portion of the project, we have all the equipment that we would absolutely need, but if we had access to better video editing software, our project could be made better. I own a Canon 60D, which we will use to shoot all of our video, and I have iMovie on my computer in which we can edit the video that we shoot. Although it is not necessary, having a better editing software would make it possible to have more elaborate effects in our video.

1. Other relevant info:

Should we need people to be in our videos (as extras), we could easily reach out to the DCC community to lend us a hand. There are plenty of people with theater backgrounds and plenty of other people that are just always willing to lend a hand.