

Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank, November 16, 2022

Brian Herzlinger - Director and Producer

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Kaitlyn Diehl

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Brian! You are such a ray of sunshine. I have to say, I was a little starstruck to be chatting with you after just watching "A Date with Drew" haha. Anyway, what stood out to me was your suggestion to do at least 1 thing every day that pushes you forward in your career. I try to do that, and sometimes it doesn't feel like enough, but I've noticed that when I reflect back on how far I've come thus far, I can still see a line of progress and that makes me feel better. So thank you, I'm going to stick with it! Persistence!

Rich Henkels

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"Be aware of roads to people and purposes you may not have known about. They could open doors that get you places!" That's a paraphrase, but pretty close to a message I think is essential, especially in such a challenging and demanding industry. Your eyes must be open.

Luca Cundo

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Wow, I feel so inspired after hearing you. I loved your quote "Surround yourself with people who are positive influences into your life."

Shelley Brietling

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This session was definitely the fastest hour ever! I was so enthralled by what Brian had to say. His life's experiences and lessons learned were so fascinating and so inspiring. What I heard the most was, to be authentic. It is so crucial to be yourself in about everything you do. Without being truthful, you are not being honest to the character or yourself.

To create and deliver authenticity off of the page is an incredible talent. How awesome is it to have the power to make someone laugh and also make them cry. This is a true gift that an actor can give anyone.

Sandra Bulk

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Brian, what can I say? You're the best! I could list a zillion things that I took away from your time with us, but the one I'll give is one of the first things you said: "Be consistently

persistent." That is an important reminder for me. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

Jamie Vaughan

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Brian was such a wonderful guest and storyteller. My biggest takeaway was his advice to do something for your craft everyday since there is no path laid out for you. You must create your own opportunity.

Dina Laura

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"Who you know gets you in the door. What you know keeps you there." So true! Thank you for reminding us that talent alone is not enough. You need a whole lot of "chutzpah"! I am so grateful you stopped by to see us, Brian!

Rashad Alii

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You have to create your own path and always say yes, unless it's to drugs! 😊

Kim Cassandra

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1. Relationships are key, but you have to stay persistent.
2. You gotta create your own opportunity. There's no path set for you. You have to walk that path, honing your craft along the way.
 - a. Do one thing toward your path to persistence every day to forward your career.
3. Say "yes" to something you normally wouldn't

Shauna Hurley-Hansen

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Today's session of Actor's Think Tank with Brian was joyful and happy from start to finish. Brian's life stories were touching, life affirming and absolutely hilarious. My heartfelt biggest takeaway from Brian was to surround yourself with a positive crew of friends, colleagues and family. Your Net. I love that he has maintained his friendships and that part of 'My Date with Drew' was that it became a time capsule with his 'brothers.' I appreciate you sharing your personality and persistence with us. It was a gift.

Catalina Conrad

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There is no path as an actor you have to create your own.

Mike Provenzano

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So many great shares today. What resonates with me is coming prepared to set, means bringing your skillset and your prep work for your character. Remember, come prepared to act just like everyone else shows up to do their part. We have a common theme in wanting to bring Christmas films to life too!!

Tyler McKenzie

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In my opinion, Brian could be an actor! His storytelling was the best of any ATT guest. One nugget of wisdom that stuck with me is to always say yes to a project or an opportunity, as you never know where it might take you.

Mariel McIntosh

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I loved Brian's story about not being afraid to take a chance. Sometimes in this business and/or life, you may be hesitant about jumping into something new. But, if you say no to the opportunity you'll never know how things could've turned out.

Lindsay Michelle Reed

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I loved hearing from Bryan. I really got that if we want something badly enough and put in the work, we can achieve our dreams and goals. One way to do that is by saying "yes" to different opportunities because you never know where they may lead.

Craig Woolridge

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"Be persistent in being persistent"

Justine Reiss

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You've got to create your own opportunities. There is no path for this career, and you don't know your path, being on top of your craft is the key because then, when you get the opportunity you can show up in your full authenticity and be ready to rock.

Shelby Hightower

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My favorite gem was keep honing your craft! Persistence is key.

Paul Blumenthal

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Say yes to an offered opportunity even though it may not be what you wanted at that time. You may not see how it will benefit you at that time but if your skill set and preparations are believable and authentic, your acting will always make it happen. The goal is to make them laugh and make them cry!

Stacey Marie Keba

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My takeaway is to stop sleeping on the floor and to at least get up to couch level. 😊

Jeannette Nina

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So many great takeaways and I loved hearing all your stories as they are very inspiring! The advice to say 'yes' to something even if you are not sure where it will lead is really resonating with me. Sometimes opportunities come from the places we least expected.