

“What makes working in the movie theatre industry unique, and how will that experience support your college goals?”

Working in the movie theater industry is unique because it combines customer service, teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving in a fast-paced environment. As a concessionist and assistant manager at Ski-Hi 6 Allen Theatres, I learned that a theater is much more than a place where people watch movies. It is a place where employees work together to create an experience that guests will remember and enjoy. One of the most unique aspects of working in a theater is that every day is different. Some days are slow and focused on preparation, while others are extremely busy with new releases and large crowds. During busy periods, employees must work together efficiently to keep lines moving, serve customers, maintain clean facilities, and ensure that everyone has a positive experience. This environment taught me how important communication and teamwork are when working toward a common goal.

My experience at the theater also helped me develop leadership skills. As an assistant manager, I was given additional responsibilities and learned how to take initiative when challenges arose. Whether helping train employees, assisting customers, or solving unexpected problems, I learned the importance of staying calm under pressure and finding solutions quickly. As an assistant manager, I learned that leadership is not about telling people what to do. It is about stepping in when help is needed, supporting coworkers during busy rushes, and making sure guests leave with a positive experience. It is supporting others and helping a team succeed. Another valuable lesson I learned was the importance of reliability. Customers expect theaters to operate smoothly, and even small issues can affect their experience. Because of this, employees must be dependable and willing to adapt when situations change. Learning to manage responsibilities while balancing school, athletics, and work strengthened my time management skills and taught me how to stay organized.

These experiences will support my college goals as I pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering. I plan to study Mechanical Engineering because I enjoy understanding how systems work and finding ways to improve them. Working in a theater showed me that successful operations depend on many moving parts working together, a lesson that mirrors the collaborative nature of engineering. The skills I developed in the theater industry directly relate to these expectations. Working in a fast-paced environment taught me how to approach problems logically and work effectively with others to find solutions. As a first-generation college student, I know that success in college will require dedication, discipline, and perseverance. My experience in the movie theater industry has helped me build these qualities while teaching me the value of hard work and responsibility. The lessons I learned at Ski-Hi 6 Allen theatres will continue to support me throughout college and as I work toward a career in engineering.