

Pre-Production Planning Document (MINI DOC)

GENERAL INFO

1. **Your Name:** Sola Awojoodu
2. **PROJECT:** Mini Documentary/Biography/News Package

CREATIVE BRIEF

1. **What must it be?**

Mini Documentary

2. **Who is it for?**

Open to all audiences

3. **How long must it be?**

1-5 minutes

4. **What is your objective with the piece?**

To document the story of Krystal and Chima's relationship, focusing on their personal accounts of their experience getting married at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

5. **When is it due?**

May 7, 2022

6. **What is the overall idea?**

Tell a unique love story within the context of a trying time

7. **What is the storyline summary?**

A couple planned their wedding for March 2020. The unexpected challenge of a worldwide pandemic and quarantine arose, but they weathered the storm and had the perfect wedding experience.

8. **Elevator pitch:**

This is an encouraging mini documentary of two individuals who met in undergrad and fell in love in grad school. They got engaged on their graduate commencement day and started planning their wedding for March 21, 2020. 15 days prior to their wedding a nationwide quarantine and lockdown began. With their wedding quickly approaching, the couple was forced to make the biggest decision of their lives.

9. **Tagline:**

Love knows no bounds.

10. Look and feel description (including “pacing”):

Moderate pace, calm, somewhat bright, homey/comfy/cozy, uplifting, inspiring

QUESTIONS / NOTES

SUBJECT:

1. Why did you choose this story?

- Krystal and Chima’s wedding story is very inspiring and encouraging.
- Weddings and the wedding industry were hit hard amid the pandemic. This story gives a true account of how a couple pushed for a positive experience and outcome despite a challenging time.

2. Story ideas:

- Brief background on the nature of Krystal and Chima’s relationship
- Brief look into their proposal
- Detailed accounts of wedding planning and the impact of the pandemic
- Brief look into life since the wedding day
- Quick nuggets of advice/words of encouragement

NARRATION/HOST:

3. Who will lead us through the piece?

The subjects will lead us through the piece

4. Narration ideas:

The subjects will recount their story directly.

INTERVIEWS:

1. Who will you interview?

A married couple: Krystal (wife) and Chima (husband)

2. Why is this person important to the piece?

Both subjects get to tell their own story

3. What questions will you ask?

Questions about their relationship journey, including when they met, dating, their proposal, wedding planning, and their wedding day

4. What follow-up questions might be important?

Questions about their marriage since their wedding day. Their honeymoon, what they like about their spouse, what they do for fun, how they feel about their wedding day looking back, etc.

B-Roll:

1. What b-roll visuals will be important to convey the story? Keep in mind you should show what the interviewees are talking about.

Photos and videos from the periods they refer to, including their proposal, wedding, and selfies/clips taken throughout their relationship

2. Any still images or charts or graphics?

Some still images from their proposal, wedding, etc.

3. Is the nat sound of the environment important? If so, be sure to record it properly.

The sound of their environment is not important, but their natural voices are, so I will use wireless lavalier microphones and a rode shotgun mic as a backup.

4. B-roll ideas:

L and J cuts incorporating photos and videos from the periods they refer to

MUSIC:

1. What is overall “mood” and “feel” of the piece?

Inspiring, encouraging, uplifting

2. Music track ideas:

Still deciding. Generally, inspirational, uplifting music, or maybe their favorite song with the proper licensing

PERMISSIONS:

1. Am I allowed to film here? Do I need permission and/or a permit?

I am allowed to film here, as I got verbal permission from the home owners.

2. Will any people be in my shots? Do I need permission and/or release forms?

Two people will be featured in my video and I already have permission.

GENERAL:

1. What gear do I need to pack and bring with me for the shoot? Film gear, sunscreen, water, etc.

Two Sony cameras, various camera lenses, multiple batteries, multiple chargers, multiple memory cards, multiple tripods, multiple lights and stands, extension cords and surge protectors, various microphones, my script, and food and water.

2. How will I transport everything and keep it safe?

One wheeled light stand and tripod carrying bag, two tripod bags, two camera bags, and a backpack

3. Are there any potential hazards or complications at this location?

There's lots of steps, so I'll be careful while transporting all the equipment.

SCRIPT

Name: Sola Awojodu

Title: Montage: Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

VIDEO	AUDIO
	<p><i>(Begin video soundtrack – few seconds)</i> <i>(Fade video soundtrack to background level)</i> <i>(Begin voice over)</i></p>
<p>Camera A: Establishing WS of Couple</p>	<p>VOICE OVER: “We got married in a pandemic”</p>
<p>*transition to individual testimonials*</p>	<p><i>(continue background music as shots transition)</i></p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of Krystal</p>	<p>Krystal describes Chima’s character/personality</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of Chima</p>	<p>Chima describes Krystal’s character/personality</p>
<p>WS/MS of Krystal/Chima, paralleled footage *b-roll to match things they refer to*</p>	<p>Krystal and Chima describe how their relationship began</p>
<p>WS/MS of Krystal/Chima, paralleled footage *b-roll to match references*</p>	<p>Krystal and Chima describe how their relationship progressed</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of Krystal *b-roll of proposal*</p>	<p>Krystal describes proposal</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of Chima *b-roll of proposal*</p>	<p>Chima describes proposal</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of couple *b-roll of wedding planning/invitations?*</p>	<p>Krystal and Chima describe wedding planning</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of couple</p>	<p>Krystal and Chima describe impact of pandemic</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of couple *b-roll of wedding day footage and photos*</p>	<p>Krystal and Chima describe wedding day</p>
<p>Switch between WS & MS of couple *b-roll of reception*</p>	<p>Krystal and Chima describe wedding reception</p>

Switch between WS & MS of couple
b-roll of honeymoons

Switch between WS & MS of couple
additional b-roll of wedding day?

Switch between WS & MS of couple
b-roll of daily life

fade to black

Quick behind the scenes shot of Sola,
Aideh, Krystal, & Chima

fade to black

credits on-screen

Krystal and Chima describe honeymoons

Krystal and Chima reflect on wedding day

Krystal and Chima talk about marriage after
the wedding, offer advice

(continue background music)

"We got married in 2020"
(fade audio)

(continue background music)

(fade background music)

INTERVIEW PREP

INTERVIEWEE COACHING TIPS

- You're going to be talking a lot, so feel free to have some water by your side, let me know if you get hot, ask for breaks, etc.
- We're going to record a lot of footage, but it's mostly to give me a good range of footage to choose from. The final video will be 1-5 minutes long.
- Let's all set our phones to airplane/silent mode to ensure that filming isn't interrupted,
- Try to answer questions by repeating the question in your answer: What's your name and who are you married to? "My name is Krystal and I am married to Chima."
- If you stumble, no worries! Pause, take a second, and start the entire phrase over.
- A lot of the questions may seem redundant or sound like the same question phrased a different way, however, they'll likely provoke different answers and give me a variety of responses to choose from while editing.
- Don't look directly at the camera. Instead, try looking at either me or Aideh, as we ask you questions right next to the camera. This will make things feel more natural
- I'll need b-roll to fill in some of the footage, so we'll shoot some of that today. It would also be great to include photos of you guys throughout your relationship, videos you have together, etc. So if we could work together to get whatever you have sent over this next week, that would be great!
- THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME IN THIS WAY!

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS: KRYSTAL

ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE

1. What's your name and who are you married to?
"My name is Krystal and I am married to Chima."
2. Tell me about Chima's character and personality.
3. What attracted you to Chima?
4. What's your favorite thing about Chima?
5. What kind of spouse is Chima?
6. What's it like having Chima as a spouse?
7. What is the best part of being married to Chima?

[BREAK]

EARLY YEARS

1. What's the story of how you met?
"I met Chima in 20..."
2. What were your first impressions of Chima?
3. What did you two have in common?
4. When did you start developing romantic interest?
5. Mutually, when did your relationship turn romantic?
6. What did you do on your first date night?
7. What were your main methods of communication?
8. How did you spend time together?
9. How long did you date?
10. As your relationship developed, how did you know things were getting serious?
11. How did you know that he was the one?
12. When did you know that you would get married?

[BREAK]

PROPOSAL/ENGAGEMENT

13. Describe your engagement story.
14. *"It was graduation day at Maryland. We were both graduating from our master's programs..."*
"because of how our school scheduled our graduations, we couldn't attend each other's graduations but after we both walked the stage..."

15. Did you suspect your proposal or was it a surprise?
16. Describe your thoughts/feelings when he popped the question.

[BREAK]

INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS: CHIMA

8. What's your name and who are you married to?
"My name is Chima and I am married to Krystal."
9. Tell me about Krystal's character and personality.
10. What attracted you to Krystal?
11. What's your favorite thing about Krystal?
12. What kind of spouse is Krystal?
13. What's it like having Krystal as a spouse?
14. What is the best part of being married to Krystal?

[BREAK]

EARLY YEARS

17. What's the story of how you met?
"I met Krystal in undergrad at the University of Maryland College Park..."
18. What were your first impressions of Krystal?
19. What did you two have in common?
20. When did you start developing romantic interest?
21. Mutually, when did your relationship turn romantic?
22. What did you do on your first date night?
23. What were your main methods of communication?
24. How did you spend time together?
25. How long did you date?
26. As your relationship developed, how did you know things were getting serious?
27. How did you know that she was the one?
28. When did you know that you would get married?

[BREAK]

PROPOSAL/ENGAGEMENT

29. When did you start thinking about proposing?
30. How did you go about selecting the ring?

31. Describe your engagement story.

"It was graduation day at Maryland. We were both graduating from our master's programs..."

"because of how our school scheduled our graduations, we couldn't attend each other's graduations but after we both walked the stage..."

32. Describe your thoughts/feelings leading up to the proposal.

33. Describe your thoughts/feelings when she said yes.

[BREAK]

JOINT INTERVIEW:

WEDDING PLANNING

34. When did you start planning the wedding?

35. How many ceremonies did you plan to have?

36. How many people did you plan to have at your ceremonies?

37. When did you decide on your wedding date?

38. What wedding date did you decide on?

39. How many people did you expect?

40. How many bridesmaids did you have?

41. How many groomsmen did you have?

42. How did wedding planning progress?

43. Talk about selecting your tux.

44. Talk about selecting your wedding dress.

45. What world events impacted your wedding?

[BREAK]

IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC

46. How did you first learn about the pandemic?

47. What conversations did you have about the pandemic and your wedding plans?

48. How did the pandemic affect your wedding?

49. How did you improvise?

50. Describe the difficulty of your decision to marry at the start of the pandemic.

[BREAK]

WEDDING DAY

51. What was something unexpected that happened at your wedding?

52. How many people attended the wedding?
53. How did you feel on the day of your wedding?
54. What were your thoughts when she walked down the aisle?
55. What were your thoughts when you met him at the altar?
56. What was the most special part of your wedding?

[BREAK]

RECEPTION & HONEYMOON

57. Describe the reception you planned for.
58. Describe your actual reception.
59. Describe the honeymoon you planned for.
60. Describe your honeymoon after the wedding.
 - a. When did you leave?
 - b. How long did you stay?
 - c. How was it?
61. Describe your honeymoon in 2021.
 - a. When did you leave?
 - b. How long did you stay?
 - c. How was it?

[BREAK]

REFLECTION

62. Looking back, how do you feel about getting married in a pandemic?
63. What were the challenges that came with getting married in a pandemic?
64. Were there benefits that came with getting married in a pandemic?
65. If you could do it all over again, would you? Why?
66. How do you feel about your decision to get married in the way that you did.

[BREAK]

MARRIED LIFE

67. How has married life been since your wedding day?
68. What has been the best part of your marriage so far?
69. What is the best part of being married in general?
70. What things do you still want to achieve as a couple?

71. What are your hopes for the rest of your marriage?
72. What are you looking forward to in the future for your marriage/family life?
73. What is the best relationship advice you were given?
74. What is the biggest strength of your relationship?
75. What are you proudest of as a couple?
76. How have you kept the romance and fun in your marriage?
77. What do you do together for fun?
78. What piece of advice would you give your just married (in a pandemic) self?
79. What's your number one piece of advice for a successful marriage?
80. Any last words you'd like to say to your spouse?

[BREAK]

Shoot "We got married in a pandemic!"

*Shoot "We got married in 2020."