

Set: We have hosted Hollywood premiere parties for different eras and for "Citizen Kane" the setting was a 1941 Hollywood premiere, complete with red carpet, cheering fans and the flashbulbs of hundreds of photographers outside the private showing of what is considered the greatest American film.



So how do we accomplish that? The red carpet material can be purchased from a Party supplies store as red runners, not too expensive and can be used over and over. I mounted disco style strobe lights to a PVC pipe and plugged them into a motion sensor set to "Test". The sensor was a simple outdoor light unit purchased at a hardware store. The effect was very effective, for as guest walked up the red carpet, their movement would trigger the various strobe lights, truly resembling the flash of many cameras. It was easy to create a CD with crowd cheers, applause and general crowd noise to add to the effect that the guests were the "stars" of the evening!

Costumes: Our guests went to the formal ware, either real or purchased from a antique clothes shop. The ladies gowns were described as they made their way up the red carpet.

Catering: Our guests were asked to be creative and many prepared Wolfgang Pucks Oscar® night recipes . In keeping with several of the plot points, we sprinkled jigsaw puzzle pieces around the serving dishes as well as Hollywood glitter and stars, available at a Party supply house.

Score: From the bookstore, we purchased several 1940's big band CDs as well as one that consisted of "Hollywood's Greatest Hits" and ran these on shuffle play throughout the dinner party. With the aforementioned crowd sound effects CD also running, it made for a realistic Hollywood evening.

