Creating Transformative Experiences: The Art of Student Engagement and Engaged Student Scholarship

Presented By: Dr. Tom Hogan
“The arts enable us to put ourselves in the minds, eyes, ears, and hearts of other human beings.”

— Richard Eyre, Renowned British Theatre and Film Director
Student engagement involves ...

- Learning & Connecting With Peers
- Exposing Students to Different Perspectives
- Creating a Meaningful Impact Within The Community
“We create an opportunity for students to bring the practical life of what we are trying to teach in the classroom into reality.”
- Dr. Marcus Whitehurst, Vice Provost for Educational Equity
Creating a welcoming and psychologically safe teaching and learning environment based on inclusion and belonging are prerequisites for high student engagement.
Research suggests that marginalized college students who actively participated in engagement opportunities experienced improvement within the following areas:

- Confidence
- Competence
- Connection
The NSSE Annual Results suggest undergraduate students should participate in at least two High Impact Practices (HIPs) during their four years at a university.

HIP’s are active learning practices that promote deep understanding and thus, student engagement.

The National Survey of Student Engagement, 2019
“Confusion,” Anne Lai
“Start unknown, finish unforgettable.”
-Misty Copeland
The arts can be leveraged to promote an inclusive culture and a sense of belonging.
When students gain experiences outside the classroom engaging in the arts, they learn more about themselves and the world around them.
“What if we realized the best way to ensure an effective educational system is not by standardizing our curricula and tests but by standardizing the opportunities available to students?”

- Ibram X. Kendi, How to Be an Antiracist
“What do you mean you can’t play basketball?”
Providing students the opportunity for "brave" conversations and dialogue

PSU World in Conversation Student Experience Rating

- Non-Worthwhile Experience: 4.0%
- Worthwhile Experience: 96.0%
Key Finding #1

Lack of time creates barriers of entry for student event and programs offered by universities.
Key Finding #2

Cost of the event creates barriers of entry for student event and programs offered by universities
Key Finding #3

Underrepresented groups of students feel more separated ethnically and culturally.
Reimagining the Future

....of student engagement

Haste leArt, Anne Lai
Survey marginalized groups on campuses to gauge interests and passions
Offer Events...

In-Person & Virtually

“If you don’t dominate the space, someone else will.”
- CPA Director Candidate at Penn State
Transform Current Advertising Strategies

- Promote Student engagement events through universities’ app
- Offering information in a convenient place
Increase Accessibility of Events

Minimize financial burdens that prevent students from attending events

- Offer season passes
Create more general education courses that incorporate the arts

- Arts events Programming included in course requirements (Inart 5)
- Encourage development of interdomain courses
Educate and train university faculty how to incorporate the arts into everyday curriculum.
Creation of Special Topics Course: *The VTLD Experience*

Virtual learning space puts into action what was learned through this study.
Collaborative Research Partners
“What makes a world of a difference is the free stuff.”

Brenna Zollman
Vice President of Professional Development
Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)
“Spending time with youth...you would not believe how much your fourth grader would articulate about the arts.”

Martha Thomas
Manager of Visitor and Volunteer Services at Blanton Museum of Art
The theatre arts is, “a medium that shows you a community that is made by a community that forges a community with the audience which is a community itself.”

Cary Mazer
Theatre Arts & English Professor at UPenn
“Diverse learning environments are the best learning environments.”

Howard Graham
Associate Director of Academic Programs at the University of Kansas
The arts can be leveraged to raise inclusive leaders.

1. Applying an Adaptive Mindset
2. Optimizing Talent
3. Achieves Information
4. Integrates Diverse Perspectives
5. Builds Interpersonal Trust

Korn Ferry, The 5 Disciplines of Inclusive Leaders
Conclusion

- Connectedness and inclusion
- Implementing innovative solutions
- Utilize High Impact Practices (HIP)
“The arts are a vital component to a complete perspective of who we are as human beings... so we have to help students to see the value of the arts beyond entertainment”

- Dr. Alan Rieck, Assistant Vice President & Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Education
Let’s work together to leverage the arts!

Andrei Mihai, Bored Panda, Photo From Anne Lai
References


Slide 3: Photo from Anne Lai

Slide 5: https://psu.instructure.com/courses/2082150/files?preview=111293024

Slide 6: https://psu.box.com/s/c5lrybx63vivey5gau5p0u8r6rpqf8gt


Slide 8: "The National Survey of Student Engagement", 2019

Photo from Anne Lai


Slide 10: https://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/

https://www.utexas.edu/about/facts-and-figures

Slide 11: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57IM9fp9aNU


https://slideplayer.com/slide/8121409/

Slide 12: How To Be An AntiRacist, Ibram X. Kendi


Slide 13: I, Too, Am Harvard Video, Anne Lai

Slide 14: World in Conversation Project, 2019

Slide 15: https://www.dreamstime.com/illustration/lack-time.html


Slide 18: Photo from Anne Lai


Slide 23: https://www.metopera.org/


Slide 25 - https://ucomm.unl.edu/brand/our-marks


https://admissions.ku.edu/

Slide 26: https://www.linkedin.com/in/brenna-zollman-8655ba164/

Slide 27: https://www.linkedin.com/in/martha-thomas-9357851/

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Slide 29: https://firstyear2017.drupal.ku.edu/howard-graham

Slide 33: Photo from Anne Lai