



Proposal # _____
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## ***Instructionally Related Activities Report Form***

SPONSOR: Heather Castillo

PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT: Performing Arts

ACTIVITY TITLE: Arts Under The Stars Santa Rosa Island Trip

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: April 21-23

Please submit via email to the IRA Coordinator along with any supporting documentation at [david.daniels@csuci.edu](mailto:david.daniels@csuci.edu) within 30 days after the activity. Thank you for your commitment to engaging our students!

### **A. ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

- (1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY;
  - (2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?
  - (3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?
  - (4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?
  - (5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?
  - (6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?
  - (7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)
  - 8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.
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### **B. ATTENDEE LIST- SUPPORTING DOCUMENT:**

In addition to the report form, *in a separate document*, attach to your email a list of attendees complete with each student major and grade level. This for IRA Committee reference only and will not be published on the IRA website. Include your name and the title of your IRA activity on the document.

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### **C. IMAGES FROM ACTIVITY:**

Finally, attach to your email up to 6 images demonstrating student participation (under 2 MB total) with captions/titles. Please attach these photos in .JPEG format directly to email. Thank you!

### **(1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY**

Students from the Dance Ensemble class used Santa Rosa Island as creative inspiration for the Arts Under The Stars performance. The journey proved to be eventful and the journey informed the piece as much as the environment and topography. Please the pre-performance video to get an idea of the challenges the dance ensemble faced during the SRI trip and then see the piece titled *Vientos*-which means wind in Spanish. The piece was an exploration of sand, water, and the gravitational force the moon exerts and potentially their contribution to the formation and landscape of the island.

### **(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?**

Dance Ensemble explores different artistic approaches to research and creative development. The trip to Santa Rosa Island provided an intense and in depth immersion into an environmentally informed creative process.

### **(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?**

The immersion, teamwork, and collaborative nature of a three-day creative intensive gave the students depth to their dance-art making. The stunning raw beauty, isolation, and precariousness of the island provided a chance to rethink movement vocabularies while creating *Vientos*.

### **(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?**

It was the instructors first time to the Island, and she led the students on a wild goose chase because she was unfamiliar with the path they were on. This made the trip interesting, but difficult to get adequate video footage because of the exhaustion from the 15 mile hike. The wind also made it very difficult to dance and respond to the environment. Please watch the video to understand.

### **(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?**

Be more clear on where we are going and take an informed guide. Having the experience would also allow me to make better decisions.

### **(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?**

That even through an unexpected exhaustive hike- the students prevailed and gained a valuable experience that informed art making.



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**(7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)**

- We learned that the island's plans, although they contradicted our own, had given life to the piece. In the end, we had to adjust a lot of choreography, but it was in a way that reflected the winds of the islands and the strength of the elements. It added the character of the island to our piece instead of us trying to create it for ourselves. It was a powerful and exhausting experience, however it gave life and value to the piece and it also gave the island a power that we would otherwise had not been able to understand.
- Being able to learn about the island was very beneficial. Our school has a connection to the island and any student can come back with a newfound appreciation not just for our school, but for our environment. Conservation is extremely important and we should respect what we have. Water and the land are such valuable entities and we should not take it for granted. I think every student should have the chance to visit the island and be able to see how nature is untouched. It directly reflects our origins and the value we hold in ourselves to be delicate and the need to be well taken care of.
- I had no idea know how much I would have to push myself physically and emotionally. We were all out of our element. I don't think any of us knew how close we would grow towards each other or how sore we would be when Sunday came. But the experience really did push us to move and work with one another despite the difficulties we were all having trying to adjust to the island's rhythm of life.
- As we move forward I would like to maintain the same feeling of excitement and adventure that we had on the island. I felt so inspired by the simple ways the island



moved with the wind that I wanted to explore it even more. I felt myself wanting to use it as inspiration for movement in the future, to think of my movements more abstractly at times, such as; mimicking the movement of the wind going through the tall grass on a hill. Overall I feel like a more enlightened individual in a since after going to the island. I came away feeling more grounded and relaxed as a college student, and I found I was able to stay on task for my other classes easier. It was like a vacation of the mind where I was able to go away and do nothing, but think about dance abstractly and that was really freeing for my soul and the idea to never give up in life.

**(8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.**

9 students and 1 instructor went to the island.  
Food total was approximately \$550 dollars.  
Cost to travel to the island was \$1,040.00

**B. ON SEPARATE DOCUMENT, PLEASE ATTACH ATTENDEE LIST  
(PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFO REMOVED)**

**C. PLEASE INCLUDE UP TO 6 IMAGES AS ATTACHMENTS TO YOUR  
SUBMISSION**

Please allow these video links to replace images. Thank you

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BxWzCiZb0EMfY1NvX0UxZ0t3STA/view?usp=sharing>

<http://2017.artsunderthestars.cikeys.com/vientos/>

<https://drive.google.com/a/myci.csuci.edu/file/d/0BxWzCiZb0EMfaFQtRjdtLTIRQVE/view?usp=sharing> (please go to 50:30 to view Vientos)



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### **Event Videos:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BxWzCiZb0EMfY1NvX0UxZ0t3STA/view?usp=sharing>

<http://2017.artsunderthestars.cikeys.com/vientos/>

<https://drive.google.com/a/myci.csuci.edu/file/d/0BxWzCiZb0EMfaFQtRjdtLTlRQVE/view?usp=sharing>

## **Santa Rosa Island Dance Ensemble trip**

**Faculty: Heather Castillo**

### **Student List**

Jeehan Abdullah

Xavier Armstrong

Jessica Bens

Jennifer Corona

Darol Garcia

Jennica Gold

Kassandra La Giusa-Riedeman

Yazmine Moreno

Gilana Pikover