

Instructionally Related Activities Report Form

SPONSOR: Heather Castillo

PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT: Performing Arts

ACTIVITY TITLE: Arts Under the Stars

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: May 4 & 5, 2018

Please submit via email to the IRA Coordinator along with any supporting documentation at 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) Arts Under The Stars, a free outdoor event that showcases art in many forms including multimedia performances, live music, dancing, and short plays. Student researchers, artists, and performers have collaborated to create this event which will showcase their talents and views on empathy. For anyone who is more comfortable reading or speaking in Spanish- our program, website, and video content will be presented in both English and Spanish.

a.

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

a. LIST OF COURSES PARTICIPATING

- i. PERFORMING ARTS/ART 391 PRODUCTION
- ii. PERFORMING ARTS DANCE HIP HOP
- iii. PERFORMING ARTS DANCE JAZZ
- iv. PERFORMING ARTS DANCE MODERN
- v. PERFORMING ARTS THEATRE ACTING 3
- vi. ESRM THE BEACH
- vii. ENGLISH
- viii. POLITICAL SCIENCE INDEPENDENT STUDY
- ix. COMMUNICATION 329
- x. EDUCATION INDEPENDENT STUDY
- xi. SPANISH TRANSLATION COURSES

I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO AUTS AS FULFILLING THE MISSION PILLAR OF INTEGRATION AT CI. ARTS UNDER THE STARS ALLOWS FOR SEVERAL CLASSES TO INTEGRATE THE SKILLS LEARNED



THROUGH COLLABORATIVE CRITICAL INQUIRY. IT IS A PLATFORM TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION AND CREATIVE RESEARCH PRESENTATION.

(4) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?

- a. THE CAMPUS WIDE INCLUSION AND SHOWCASE OF INTEGRATION AND RESEARCH STRENGTHS.

(5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?

- a. THERE ARE ALWAYS THINGS TO LEARN FROM PUTTING ON AN EVENT THE SCALE OF AUTS. I SEE THE WEAKNESSES THAT ARE ENCOUNTERED EVERY YEAR AS LEARNING MOMENTS FOR OUR STUDENTS TO CREATIVELY TACKLE AND AIM TO IMPROVE THE EVENT EVERY YEAR.
 - i. THE SHOW IS STILL "TOO LONG" AND SO I AM WORKING ON SOLUTIONS TO MAKE AN EVENT THAT FITS IN A TWO HOUR TIME FRAME.
 - ii. DISSEMINATING THE DIGITAL PROGRAM- WHICH IS STILL A UNIQUE WAY FOR AUDIENCES TO ENGAGE WITH THE SHOW.
 - iii. COMBINING THE EVENT WITH SAGE MADE ADVERTISING THE EVENT CONFUSING. I WOULD LIKE TO MAINTAIN THE PARTNERSHIP FOR AUTS WITH SAGE, BUT STILL FIND A WAY TO CLEARLY LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHEN SPECIFICALLY AUTS IS OCCURRING.

(6) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?

- a. KEEP THE SHOW AT AN APPROPRIATE LENGTH.
- b. MOVE THE SHOW BACK TOWARD THE EVENING TIME WHEN IT IS MORE MAGICAL WHEN IT IS DARK- AND TRULY UNDER THE STARS.

(7) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?

- a. COLLABORATION IS CHALLENGING AND COMMUNICATION IS IMPORTANT. USING SLACK WAS A GREAT WAY TO ENGAGE STUDENTS ACROSS MULTIPLE COURSES TO COMMUNICATE.
- b. THE STUDENTS AT CI ARE CAPABLE OF AMAZING THINGS. AUTS IS NOT EASY AND MIRRORS IN DIFFICULTY PRODUCTIONS SUCH AS THE OSCARS, EMMYS, OR AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS. I AM PROUD OF THEM, AND PROUD THAT AUTS IS SUPPORTED BY CI AND THAT THEY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THEIR RESEARCH AND VOICES IN THIS CREATIVE AND UNIQUE PLATFORM

(8) 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)

- a. I HAVE INCLUDED FULL REFLECTIONS FROM 4 STUDENTS THIS YEAR INSTEAD OF SHORT PARAGRAPHS EXERTED FROM SEVERAL. I THOUGHT FOR A CHANGE THIS MIGHT OFFER THE LARGER VIEW AND IMPACT THE EVENT HAS ON INDIVIDUALS

8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.

THE LARGEST EXPENSE FOR AUTS IS THE STAGE AND TECHNICAL NEEDS FOR PUTTING ON THIS SHOW- \$55,000. SINCE MOVING TO EL DORADO PARK, WE HAVE HAD TO PURCHASE TENTS FOR CHANGING ROOMS AND MANAGEMENT, \$2,000. PROVIDE PORTABLE TOILETS AND HEATERS FOR GUEST COMFORT \$1,500. PROPS AND COSTUMES TO REALIZE THE CREATIVE PRESENTATION \$3,000. PRINTING NEEDS \$500. EVENT T-SHIRTS FOR 150 STUDENTS PARTICIPANTS \$2,000.



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.

Please see the screen shot of the program analytics. Counting the fluid stream of people while putting the show on is challenging. We have relied on the amount of program views to give us an idea of the amount of people who attended the event, which was just over 1,000.

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!

I am also including digital materials created for the event

<http://2018.artsunderthestars.cikeys.com/>

<http://www.2018able.artsunderthestars.cikeys.com/>

<http://auts.populr.me/2018>

<http://auts.populr.me/able2018>

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Please enter response

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California State
University

**INSTRUCTIONALLY
RELATED
ACTIVITIES**

C H A N N E L
I S L A N D S

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

Please enter response

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

Please enter response

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

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

Analytics: Arts Under The Stars 2018, Empathy



1064 views

184 clicks

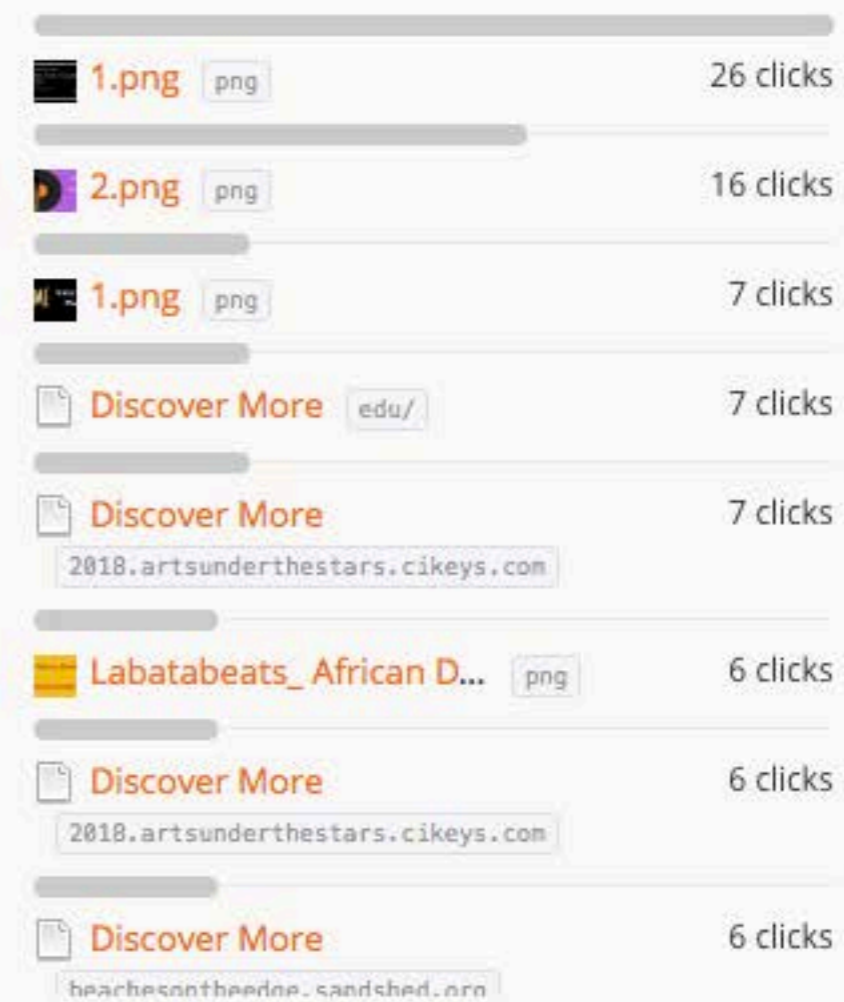
Direct



Social

- Facebook [Add tracer](#)
- Google+ [Add tracer](#)
- LinkedIn [Add tracer](#)
- Twitter [Add tracer](#)

Clicks for all tracers



*The process of being a Creative was both stressful and frustrating; however, I am more than happy of the outcome. I have learned a lot about myself and as an aspiring director. I found out that nothing is impossible and that there will always be a way. I believe I would have not gotten the same results if I were given everything to me the I would have wanted for my piece. Yes, it would have made things easier and more convenient, but I feel like I would not have gotten that same feeling that I received when actually struggling to solve my problems. The appreciating of hard work is a lot more rewarding. I feel absolutely proud of myself because I was thrown obstacles after obstacles. It has taught me to really reach deep inside me and to face that inner struggle to get that creative side out of me. I feel like if I didn't have to work that hard, I wouldn't have learned anything about myself and where I stand as a creative leader...a director. With Arts Under the Stars being the first time I officially felt like a real director, publishing my work to the public, I surprised myself to what I was actually able to accomplish and I cry knowing that I do have the ability to do what I do best. I have grown not just as a director or creative leader, but as a student as well. I've overcome challenge I thought would never be possible. The best part of knowing that being a director is definitely for me; it's the fact that I happy about stressing over my own creative work. Finding flaws within my creation helps me grow and pushes me to do better. To come back with better ideas or a solution. I will definitely be coming back to Arts Under the Stars for the Spring of 2019.

*I have been a part of Arts Under the Stars for 4 years now. Each year I had varying degrees of involvement. Starting out as part of an ensemble I saw first hand the kind of show that AUTS was, organic, human-based, and above all it was driven by the power and effort of the student rather than the dollar amount offered to the program. It showed that the students were going to put in near professional effort into the show regardless of what they gained in the end because the show became its own reward. In my second year I was asked specifically to be part of a duet. It was the first time in my life that I had been recognized, and remembered for something other than an academic matter. It was the first time I had been picked out of thin air because someone appreciated my skills or talents. That year I was able to shine and understand the difference between being a small part of a large group, and being half of a whole performance. In my third year I took on a different, more integrated approach to AUTS which allowed me to contribute using both my skills on stage, and my skills in production. I had only recently learned the basics of audio mixing and production, but it was more than enough for me to use for the good of the performance. Along with this application of learned skills, the production of AUTS 2017 challenged me in ways I had never anticipated the arts to challenge me. During the few weeks prior to the show there were tasks that needed to be completed which I wasn't initially responsible for, but accepted for the good of the show, performers, and because I had been instilled with a sense that every part of the production team had to work just as hard as the others because the concept of the show is not simply one object, or one topic, it's the harmony of many different parts forming the whole. I took on these tasks even though upon acceptance I did not have all of the skills I needed to complete them. It was

through the long hours of work spent on these tasks that I developed video editing skills I had only dreamed of, and graphic design skills that were previously uninspired. On stage that year I added the component of performance art to AUTS, and developed my skills as a carpenter in the process. It seemed small in comparison to the production work, but the following year the trend had been started as though my initial performance was simply a stone in the water causing waves to form.

In my fourth and final year of AUTS I stepped away from the stage for the first time. I acted as a planning, managing, and decision-making part of the production team. The responsibilities attached were much higher than that of a performer, and it gave me a sense of success and purpose in my studies. Being in this position taught me many lessons in business, communication, and even sociology that I never thought performing arts would teach me. Above all this year's show taught me two important things though. The first is the deeper, lesser known meaning of Empathy. On paper, the empathy is defined as sharing the same feeling as another person. AUTS has taught me that Empathy also includes sharing that feeling with those that don't understand, in a manner that they can understand. Empathy has two parts, understanding, and sharing. It is the latter that we often look over in our lives. The second lesson I was taught by AUTS this year was a lesson in perspective.

After so many years being an on stage performer I was painfully unprepared for the amount of work that goes into supporting the performers, audience, and the overall structure of performance events. Performers put in a large amount of work and effort creating, rehearsing, and polishing their performance over a period of a couple months, but when it comes to the day of the performance that work is significantly dwarfed by the effort that production/event staff have to supply in order to hold up the weight of a polished performance. On the first night I took 18,000 steps according to my fitbit. Prior to that I had only barely broken the 10k mark, which proved to me that production work is some of the purest, hardest work one can do, and there are no shortcuts involved.

The reward however, is insurmountable. Seeing the show from the outside for the first time was awe inspiring. The experience left me satisfied that the work we were putting in was going to make this grow, and that even though the students are there for the show, the funding will be there to help the students achieve things they only ever dreamt.

* This was my first year participating in Arts Under the Stars and overall, I can say that it has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. Not only was it my first year, but I also had the privilege of being a creative lead for a piece in collaboration with the ESRM department. I decided to join this class last semester when a friend convinced me to do so and I had no idea how big of an impact it would have. This semester has opened my eyes to who I really am as an artist and Arts Under the Stars was a huge part of that realization. With the

theme of Empathy this year, the pieces I was a part of really taught me to see things from different perspectives and learn about important social issues that we deal with in our world today.

I think that Arts Under the Stars is a valuable learning tool not just for students who take the class and participate in the event but also for the audience that comes to see the show. It's a way to educate, raise awareness of our social issues, and motivate people to take action or seek change in order to improve our world. I really value being part of something that has a lasting positive influence to the community.

Working on the ESRM piece was an incredible experience for me as I am an ESRM major as well as a performing arts minor. I love how I was able to put science and research together with dance and performance. Arts have a way of conveying research to make it more impactful than words on a piece of paper. It makes people feel something in connection with the science behind the performance and that is what motivates people to make a change. It's such an important and underrated way to educate!

As I mentioned before, this semester I have really started to figure out who I am as an artist, especially with the songwriting competition I was part of. I have never truly felt validated as a singer or songwriter and now I do. Arts Under the Stars gave me a platform to perform a song that I wrote on a stage with a live band in front of an extremely receptive audience. I was able to show my friends and family what I could accomplish. I was able to show that I can sing, and I can write, and I can dance! I was able to show that I can touch people with and without words.

I am also extremely grateful for the classmates and friends I was so lucky to meet throughout the course of the semester. I have made bonds that will last so much longer than Arts Under the Stars and will continue to grow as time progresses. I witnessed just how hard people are willing to work and dedicate time to put on a show that conveys such strong messages and I am so proud to know them. I watched everyone push boundaries to become better performers to ultimately create a bigger impact through their performance. I saw bruises and injuries, yet they were worn as battle scars and the show went on. There were some sad tears, but also very happy ones because after Arts Under the Stars came to a conclusion, everyone knew what a fantastic job we did and how much we touched so many people.

Arts Under the Stars is something so incredibly meaningful, not only for the performers or the campus even, but ultimately for everyone we can reach out to in our community or even further! The messages and important societal issues conveyed through the performances have the capability to change perspectives and motivate change. All it takes is one person to see things in a different light and make a positive change in their life for Arts Under the Stars to be successful, and we touch hundreds through our event every year. Arts Under the Stars was an amazing experience that opened my eyes to so many different things this semester and I can't wait to be a part of it again next year. I feel like being a part of this event will always teach me more about the world and about myself. Arts Under the Stars is truly something that made me

a better performer and an all-around better person and I am so appreciative of the whole experience.

* The experience I had in the class has had a huge impact in my educational experience. I transferred to CSUCI in the fall of 2016. When Arts under Stars happened last spring I was amazed at how an event like AUTS can be so impactful. Everything leading up to the event was a huge learning experience. Being part of the planning process and seeing it all come to life was awesome. Being part of Obituary to the Beach and Chair of Affirmation were two pieces that took me out of my comfort zone. In obituary to the beach I was honored that Chelsea gave me the role to be water and that to me was very special because I never thought I would have such a big role. Being part of the pieces and working with the girls and Robert was awesome. I learned to let go of my nerves and just embrace the movements. I really did feel like water on the stage. I felt so alive at the moment. Taking such a powerful role in Chair of Affirmation was actually kind of intense. I did not think I would be take an acting role. Everything about the piece was intense and I realized how much fun acting is. And again both pieces brought so much out of me that I did not know I had. I am so thankful for the support of everyone in my pieces and outside of my pieces.

The day of AUTS seemed to go very smoothly. Because I was going to be part of the beginning of AUTS I was a little nervous that things wouldn't work out. There was a lot of logistics that went into having all the Danza family to come out. Being that it was two days it was hard to find someone but everything worked out perfect because good energy was flowing and we were able to do the blessing. And I think it was extra special for me because I was part of starting off the show with good energy. I believe that is why I felt like I shined up on the stage. During the time of the event however there was some confusion and maybe it was just me, but I didn't know when my piece was next so I thought I had time but turns out I didn't and that almost made me miss the Obituary to the beach piece. I should had been more attentive but I think if we had a person that would be in charge of like shouting out, "5 mins till your on stage" type of deal because I think with a lot of things going on and people it can get easy to get lost. And perhaps that is just me because I have never been part of a show like AUTS. But I think it would definitely be beneficial to have someone tell us when we were up next. My next piece with Isaac went really well I was so happy that everyone really experienced something special.

Thank you Heather for giving me the opportunity to be part of the class, because I did not have any performing arts background I was nervous how I would be welcomed but actually everything turned out amazing. You are an amazing teacher and performer, I am happy I found this class because it made my last semester at CI very very special.