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Don't Stop the Music

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Introduction

History and Purpose of Service Site
Music began as a way to express one’s emotions, especially in times or turmoil. When life had little to look forward to, there was little to eat, and disease plagued the population, music attempted to bring light to the situations they experienced. The purpose of the music department, specifically at Fertitta, is to educate students about the significance of arts development in their lives, as it allows them to use parts of their brain they were not utilizing before. The arts programs at Fertitta allow for their students to feel apart of a group, which inherently allows them to build positive relationships, keeps them out of trouble, and much more.

Community Service Paradigm
As Fertitta’s arts department attempts to make social change where “social change or transformation models are theoretically about empowerment of the systematically disenfranchised,” (Keith Morton 23), the disenfranchised being those deprived of a musical education.

Social Issue Research

Social Issue Addressed
As musical education is valued less and less, students receive a worse education in this area, limiting their futures and ability to be freely creative in all walks of life.

Current and Ideal State of Social Issue
The current state of the issue with musical education is that it is not valued as highly as common core classes. Sara Curran makes it a point to explain that “Just as in the United Kingdom, music as a secondary school curricular subject in the United States of America is also deemed as not sufficiently important to warrant sustained support” (98). In Las Vegas, if music was valued amongst all school communities, it would result in a higher high school graduation rate due to the involvement and student motivation to stay in school.

Service Site Approach to Issue
The music department at Fertitta actively approaches this issue through the implementation of having students take an elective arts class for at least one year has been a huge contribution.

My Approach to Issue
I have given individual and group lessons to students at this school to allow them to understand the importance of music.

References

Service Learning Experience and Making a Difference

Service to Community
I have been able to make an impact on my social issue as a whole. Students who will spread the word of what they learned are the people that make it possible for my service learning to make such a difference.

Semester Reflection
By addressing the necessity for a musical education specifically, I have been able to tackle a greater issue to help address the social issue.

Expectations
Going into the assignment, I did not think that I could affect change as much as I wanted to. However, I was happily surprised with the impression I was able to have.

Differences in my Own Views
I believe that musical education should be promoted worldwide to create an understanding and peaceful environment.

Differences I Made for the Site
I have been able to have an impact on the students who are in band in such a way that promoted their sticking with music.

Personal/Professional Learning
I have been able to allow my own passion and love for music to grow, encouraging me to pick up the oboe again. This will help me professionally, as playing oboe allows for a greater understanding of, which I can apply to being an English teacher.

Future Change, Effort, and Outcomes
I would expect for people around the world to come together as one, as opposed to remaining enemies, dehumanizing various cultures, races, ethnicities, and differences.