

“School House to Jail House” Residency
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Final Evaluation, 9/6/12

Residency Partners

- Lead Partner and Sponsor
 - Media Literacy Project (MLP)
 - Mission – to advance education and advocacy for media justice
 - Vision – a world where all people and communities have affordable access to utilize any and all media tools to ensure their self-determination and a healthy media landscape.
 - Lead Partner Residency Goal – To build the base of local community partners collaborating with MLP
- Community Partners
 - Encuentro
 - engages Latino immigrant families in educational opportunities that build skills for economic and social justice
 - El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos
 - Latino immigrant led organization working with Latino immigrants and allies to defend, enforce, and advance the communities' collective rights.
 - Los Jardines Institute
 - reclaiming and cultivating knowledge and sustainability through cultural practice
 - Native Health Initiative
 - a partnership to addressing health inequities through [loving service](#)
 - Sons of the Most High
 - works with at-risk youth through Hip Hop music creation and performance
 - Community Partners' Residency Goal – to make a public event/performance that draws attention to local criminal justice issues
- Affiliates
 - Asi Records – Hip Hop group
 - La Plazita Institute – engages local youth, elders, and their communities in drawing from their roots and histories to express core traditional values of respect, honor, love, and family and to leave behind violence and a destructive lifestyle
 - Rockmore Foundation – working through trade and collaboration, helps artists/producers/videographers find the resources that contribute to success

What Went Well in the Residency?

- Community Partner response
 - Roadside Theater's leadership in the project
 - Language (Spanish, English) interpretation by Sonai
 - The Roadside Theater, Media Literacy Project process and workshops
 - Story Circle methodology was especially helpful
 - The final event/performance and the discussion afterward were good
- Lead Partner, Sponsor response
 - Stories that emerged through the workshops
 - Publicity methods
 - FaceBook
 - Phone calls to prison list
 - Having the criminal justice issues discussed regularly
 - Flexibility of the event/performance
 - Food provided at workshops, rehearsal, and the event/performance
 - Using local food vendors
 - Assigning an "assistant" to Roadside for the event/performance and rehearsal
 - Good mix of material in the event/performance
 - Good to have a sing-along-song to end the performance
 - Event/performance space was good
 - Zuni story woven through the performance worked
 - Good outreach with partners
 - Use of partner providers – asked partners to bring people to the event/performance to record their stories; if they commit to bringing 10 people, they can have a display table

What Could Be Improved?

- Community Partner response
 - More time for discussion after the performance
 - Dealing better with traffic patterns the night of the show that delayed people from arriving on time
- Lead Partner, Sponsor response
 - Traffic issue – should have had a map to the event/performance location that had multiple routes in case of traffic problems and competing events
 - Should have put MLP postcards on all the audience seating
 - Should have gotten more public officials, MLP Advisory Council, local press, to the event/performance
 - Should have gotten a head count of audience

- Should have had a time keeper at the discussion
- Should have had a MLP intro to the event/performance
- Should have passed the donation box around the audience
- All the words to the audience sing-a-long song weren't in the program
- Should have had ushers seating people
- Should have called the local media the day before the show
- Rusita could have learned from Roadside how the final script was put together
- Sound
 - Volume levels during the performance fluctuated
 - Wired mics were hard to deal with
- Language translation of the performance on a screen would have been helpful

Next Steps

- Lead Partner and Community Partners agree
 - More of the same
 - Address criminal justice/community issues through live performance
 - Use parts of what was learned and done in multiple contexts
 - Albuquerque Dia de las Muertas parade
 - Enter the parade
 - Work with MagNet to set up an appointment with Congressmen
 - Continue working with Edward Wemytewa on Story Circles and performances