

Summer Sew Fun Post-Project Evaluation:

1. Accomplishments and how grant funds were utilized during the grant period.

Upon receiving the letter saying that I was granted the Urbana Arts Grant in the sum of 1000.00 dollars I was really pleased to have that given to me. I used the funds to purchase supplies from a local repurpose store called the Idea store. I utilized a lot of the materials there to create sewing kits for the children. I thought that this would be better and more cost effective to make something for the children to use than to purchase a kit from the store which could limit my ability to be creative. The other added benefit was that I was supporting a local business which is something I try to do a lot of. So I purchased Fabric, notions, and papers to get things made for the boxes for the children to have at the end of the program. I later discovered probably by the third day that snacks might be helpful for the students to keep them alert, I took this opportunity to incorporate a fashion lesson with food. I provide healthy snacks that consisted of Apple sauce, crackers, 100% fruit juice and water, and another fruit different each week. While we ate our snacks I would have a video of Fashion shows or Fashion programs for us to critique. We watched childrens fashion shows as well so they can see children like themselves using that creativity. I also went through how to set up and present their own fashion show. Which I believe was the best part of class. They worked together in teams of two and they came up with a budget, the music, the styling and the clothes for their own fashion show. We utilized the Costume Closet for the clothes and the children really went out on a limb of what goes into the production of a show like that. I even taught a very brief lesson in making their own patterns. that was fun to watch the children see that clothes don't just show up at the store and they got to see all that goes into the set of a finished garment.

2. The impact that the grant funds had on your artistic or organizational development.

Being that this was my first time working with a grant i must say that the next time i put something like this on I will definitely take into account the space, and the food aspect. I believe that without the grant that part of my program would have suffered greatly.

3. The number of hours spent in completing the project, including planning, administration, promotion, production, and the final presentation.

I believe that the hours used were well over 80 hours worth of work putting together the lesson plan each week, purchasing the materials and food for the week, and finally teaching the children. The last day of the program was a bittersweet one for me. I saw completely different children from the time they 1st appeared in the classroom to the very end. I think they took with them a lot of things that will aid them in the future when it comes to designing clothes.

4. The number of participants in events or activities related to your grant project.

I had a huge group of people that wanted to be apart of the program. Once they discovered that there was a cost, a lot of people decided not to have their children participate which was a bit disconcerting, however it turned out that I decided not to charge the children who were unable to pay. SO that they could still enjoy the benefit of sewing and spending time with their friends. I had two paying students and then I had 7 students total. However that number dwindled down as the lessons became more intense.

5. Description of experience working with collaborating partners.

I was very blessed to have Susan Parenti from the School of Design Society agree to teach a section about designing shoes. I wanted the children to understand that Fashion and Design doesn't just stop with clothes. It expands into a whole realm of creativity. Susan was a blast and the children had a blast creating shoes that they designed and could wear.

6. Any additional comments.

I have been teaching sewing for more than 15 years now, in the privacy of my home, I must say it was an experience and a lot of fun to put it into a classroom setting and helping the children discover something deeper than just putting on clothes they liked. I gave them the opportunity to expand in the field of Fashion and to add their own personal style to things they