

Faculty and Staff Diversity Mini-Grant Final Report

Project title Black Jew Dialogue

Grant Recipients Festival of the Arts

Date Project Started 19FEB11

Amount of Money Funded by the Mini-Grant

\$2,362

1. How was the grant used to address a diversity or inclusion related goal?

Using the vehicle of comedy it was the intention of the Festival of the Arts to bring this award winning group to campus to discuss issues relative to two great minorities, Jews and Blacks.

The actors say, "Our great hope in writing the show was to use it as a catalyst to reunite our cultures. The black and Jewish communities in America share a history of pain, oppression, pride, and a deep commitment to civil rights and justice. In the past several decades our communities have slowly drifted apart."

2. Describe the audience that was impacted by the grant's implementation. Provide quantitative data, if available.

The audience was extremely disappointing. In spite of a great deal of publicity and inclusion in the Festival booklet there were less than 20 people who showed up. There were no obvious minorities in the audience.

3. Grant recipients are required to provide a short narrative that details the specific efforts each of the collaborators made to the implementation of the grant.

The Festival of the Arts has been very successful in bringing a wide variety of art to the Big Rapids Community. Publicity on radio, newspapers and 5,000 copies of a Festival Booklet that is distributed throughout the community has helped attract audiences to a wide range of arts events.

4. What is your overall assessment of the project's impact on the Ferris community? How did this impact compare to what you expected?

The overall assessment of the project impact was embarrassingly poor. The lack of attendance of minorities was particularly disappointing and we have been unable to come up with ideas of how this could be corrected in the future.

5. Present a final budget including all funds received and spent related to the project, with special focus on the funds received via the Diversity Mini-grant.

N/A

Primary Grant Recipient's Signature _____ **Bruce C. Dilg, Chairperson, Festival of the Arts**_____

Date 29JUL15_____