

Faculty Staff Diversity Mini-Grant Application. Electronic submission is required. A signature page signed by each team member is required; please include a scanned/digitized copy with your submission or send the signature page separately to the Diversity and Inclusion Office.

Project Title (up to 25 words) SiteStudio: Play Learn Space Project - Children Designing for Children at Southwest Community Campus with mentorship from KCAD Architecture and Industrial Design students

List the members of the team and indicate their roles on the project. One member should be identified as Team Leader.

1 (required) Margaret Vega Role on team: Founding Director; Team Leader works on all aspects of the project; attends all teaching sessions, organizes community events and serves as connecting voice with SWCC, GRPS, SAF and other partners; writes all PR; initiates partnerships and ideas

2 (required) Isabel Blanco Role on team: Assistant Director; organizes promotion, supplies, updates website; attends all sessions; works with SWCC on volunteer forms, photo releases, etc...

3 (required) Brett Kincaid Role on team: Guest Designer; gives 8 lectures, meetings with mentors; assists in all community presentations; explains aspects of the project at receptions

4 (optional) Jon Moroney Role on team: Industrial Design Professor KCAD; works with the mentors and assists them with the CAD drawings and models

5 (optional) _____ Role on team: _____

Add additional lines as necessary to list all team members

Contact Information for Team Leader:

Margaret Vega margaretvega@ferris.edu 616-240-2320

Project Summary/Abstract If the application is approved the project summary will be posted on the Diversity and Inclusion Office website.

SiteStudio Children Designing for Children is a mobile arts curriculum teaching design and creative thinking within the context and culture of the neighborhoods where students live. For six years, the program has benefitted school age children at Cesar Chavez Elementary and Southwest Community Campus K-8 (SWCC) schools in Grand Rapids, and has enriched the experience and portfolios of KCAD college students serving as design mentors. SWCC middle school children in small groups, each with a KCAD mentor, attend classes directed by a guest designer for 8 weeks. They learn about the design process, client criteria, and ultimately design and present a concept to a real client. For the first time in Spring of 2020, that client will be Grand Rapids Public Schools – SWCC itself, where eighth grade

students will design an Outdoor Play Learn Space that reflects the community and the children who play here. GRPS has already secured funding to construct the final playground design. In addition to the mentorship and community connections gained by KCAD students, the Principal of SWCC reports that children who have been involved in this program have exhibited more confidence than their peers. Several have become interested in previously unexplored design or engineering fields.

Project Narrative. Please be Concise. Structure your narrative as follows. Do not omit any section.

1. Discuss the need for this project;
2. Provide a detailed description of the project, including how it will be implemented and the specific roles of each member of the team;
3. Provide the timeline for the project. Be sure to specify at what point the grant will be considered complete. Final Report is due within 3 months after completion;
4. Describe the target audience and indicate how many participants are expected. Discuss how the project will be publicized and promoted and, if appropriate, how participants will be selected.
5. Discuss specifically how the project relates to the current Ferris State University Diversity and Inclusion Plan;
6. List at least 3 measurable outcomes for this project/event. For each outcome, identify how it is connected with the Ferris State University Diversity and Inclusion Plan. Include a description of how the outcome will be assessed.

Project Narrative for SiteStudio: Play Learn Space Project - Children Designing for Children at Southwest Community Campus with mentorship from KCAD Architecture and Industrial Design students

Need

Kendall College of Art and Design is in need of diversity initiatives to enable students to experience the value of other cultures, languages and peoples. These experiences dispel stereotypes and link them with the community at large. Through this experience of SiteStudio, in a neighborhood of families from Mexico, Central and Latin America, KCAD students experience first-hand the diversity in our community and form relationships with these children, parents and teachers. For four years, the SiteStudio: Children Designing for Children program has worked to address this need by partnering KCAD students with middle school students at Southwest Community Campus (SWCC) in design projects. Together, they have designed play spaces for the Grand Rapids Children's Museum, the Helen DeVos Childrens Hospital, and the Children's Healing Center, a germ free facility for children with chronic conditions and their families in Grand Rapids. At SWCC itself, however, the current playground has broken equipment, and is unsafe for the children to play. There are two working swings, a rusty slide and a few donated pieces of playground equipment for over 200 children to use during a 15 minute recess. After accessing the needs of the neighborhood, and respecting their language, challenges of immigration, and culture richness, KCAD students will steer the ideas of the 8th graders to design a new space.

Redesigning this community and educational play space addresses the shared needs of KCAD of FSU, GRPS, and the neighborhood. In addition, it supports relationship development and trust with the Roosevelt Park neighbors as Ferris plans increased engagement at Plaza Roosevelt, where these same eighth graders will go for high school in the Fall of 2020.

Program Description and Timeline

SiteStudio was founded as a means to bring quality art and design experiences to children in their neighborhoods. The program works in a direct way by initiating an art or design project through education and collaboration while working with community partners to make it a reality.

Children Designing for Children was developed out of a growing understanding that children often play and explore in places that reflect their preferences, and that these spaces differ from those designed by adults for them. The program offers 8th grade students the opportunity to create a space that could be used by the students themselves, their brothers, sisters, friends and families as a way to teach them about design principles and process, career pathways in the field, and to engage them with KCAD and KCAD students pursuing those career paths.

Team Leader Margaret Vega has already initiated the partnership with GRPS, and supported the district in securing funding to construct the playground from the Student Advancement Foundation. The SWCC Play Learn space project will begin in late January with the students, mentors, and Guest Designer Brett Kincaid. Over eight weeks of design classes at SWCC, children and their KCAD student mentors will meet with architects, landscape architects, safety advisors and many other professionals in this field to understand how to best design the new outdoor Play Learn space. They will visit other play sites, decide how to divide the space for the different activities like the soccer area, a place for swings, an area to grow a garden, or an place to have a picnic on the weekend. Teams will present to their ideas to parents and the other children at SWCC, who will ultimately use the space before transferring the final CAD designs created by the KCAD mentors to GRPS on April 1st. The first week of April, the KCAD mentors will edit and hang a show at SWCC, with a reception following. While the show will remain open to the public at KCAD until GRPS completes construction, the opening reception will mark the end of the SiteStudio: Play Learn Space project for reporting purposes.

Target Audience and Publicity

Over 200 children participate with SiteStudio annually at either Cesar Chavez Elementary School or Southwest Community Campus in the build a bridge project, after school programs, painting murals with the artist in residence program, Spring Break Camps or attend opening receptions that celebrate children's work at Kendall College of Art and Design. Southwest Community Campus is a Grand Rapids Public School bilingual school (Spanish). At both SWCC and Cesar Chavez, students primarily speak English as a second language. The neighborhood is a culturally rich environment and both the KCAD student mentors and the 8th grade SWCC students benefit from this diversity in cultures, social class, background, educational experience and age.

For the SWCC Play Learn space project, there will be five KCAD student mentors: two from the MArch program, two from Industrial Design, and one from Collaborative Design. The diversity in the majors also encourages new conversations on problem solving among the KCAD students. There will also be 25 SWCC 8th graders. A student from Ferris will observe the project in the interest of future collaborations in the neighborhood between Ferris and KCAD students.

The client is GRPS, the community, and the children who will play in that space. Ultimately, approximately 300 people/children will use the space each day. The project will be publicized through: KCAD daily and Portfolio magazine, Ferris State University with the continuation of their interviews and

articles, GRPS through their community bulletins and online news, Student Advancement Foundation, SWCC, through community bulletins and PTO. Finally, the project will also be used in recruiting new students and in KCAD student mentor portfolios.

Integration with Ferris State University Diversity and Inclusion Plan

As listed in this document, SiteStudio:Children Designing for Children Play Learn Space initiative supports the following goals in the FSU Diversity and Inclusion Plan:

“Strengthens existing collaborations and builds new partnerships with the community surrounding the college campus”; Southwest Community campus is six minutes, 1.6 miles, from the KCAD campus and the KCAD students have never been to or worked in this diverse neighborhood.

Also, Goal 1,

Goal 1: “Create a University that is respectful of differences and civil toward people who are different”; KCAD students involved in the Children Designing for Children project learn to be respectful about differences by working with diversity in their neighborhood, which enables understanding of culture differences through the language of design, creative problem solving and collaboration.

And Goal 5

Goal 5: to “Improve inclusivity by incorporating diversity and inclusion in significant ways in teaching, learning...” SiteStudio Children Designing for Children incorporates diversity and inclusion in its mission, teaching and program plan on all levels as listed below.

For additional information and photos: www.artlinkgr.weebly.com

Outcomes and Measures

- Outcome 1:
- KCAD of FSU will play a role in the new playground for Southwest Community Campus by the fall of 2020, designed by the children who live in this neighborhood and attend this school.
 - SiteStudio strengthens diversity and inclusion by providing direct involvement of KCAD students with the Latino community. SiteStudio projects enable KCAD students to work in the neighborhood and understand, respect and value people who are very different than they are.
 - SiteStudio through this educational program introduces diversity into the dynamics and structure of KCAD students
 - o Measurement for Outcome 1: The KCAD will fill out a survey at the end of the session that will address their growth and experiences with this SiteStudio project

Outcome 2:

- KCAD mentors will grow in their understanding of diversity and inclusion in an organic way, better preparing them to serve all clients and communities in the future.
- We are a global community that is largely unrealized by our students. By bringing together different ethnicities in this program, KCAD students become connected to the community through diversity, dispelling stereotypical judgements, pre-determined career paths and therefore understand, have tolerance and embrace cultural differences. With this involvement, there is empowerment to the SWCC students as well as KCAD college students by recognizing and respecting other backgrounds, beliefs and language.

- Measurement for Outcome 2:
- KCAD students will be asked to engage with conversations on various career options in the design field open to the 8th students during each session and also give a tour at KCAD of their design departments; documented with photographs

- Outcome 3:
- KCAD student mentors will introduce SWCC students to career fields in which their community has been traditionally under-represented.
- KCAD students through discussion with the 8th graders and the Guest Designer through class lectures, will introduce the students to Latino designers, architects and artists as an awareness of the impact of the Spanish speaking culture, and as inclusion in the dialog of global design. There will also be guest Architects and other professionals who represent the design fields of study available to the students. We will be engaging the SWCC Dean of Students who is from Santiago, Chile and is head soccer coach at EGR high School to engage the students in designing the soccer field. This hands-on inclusion breaks down barriers and stereotypes for the KCAD students through the language of potential and global design.
 - Measurement for Outcome 3:
 - photos of the KCAD students working with professionals of diversity and conversations with the 8th graders who are not aware of these opportunities.
 - Lectures that include global designers and design thinking to problem solve; examples of lecture notes and images will be posted on our website and displayed at SWCC during the process

Conclusion

The SiteStudio Play Learn Space project will be valuable to the KCAD architecture and industrial design students and to the University overall as it offers real-world experience, team and leadership skills development, and a high-profile collaboration in a culturally rich neighborhood where future Ferris investment is planned. Requested funding would support the SiteStudio design component, guest speakers, traveling to other sites, model making, printing for presentations by mentors and students to the community, etc. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and for the opportunity to support diversity and inclusion efforts at Ferris through this work.

Budget and budget Justification. Use the attached budget form. Required components are:

1. Itemized list of expenses with a brief explanation of each;
2. Itemized list of funds anticipated from other sources;
3. Amount requested from the Faculty and Staff Diversity Mini-Grant.

See the Mini Grant Rubric for additional guidance. If required components of the grant are missing, the grant will be returned.

Final Report.

A final report is required. Failure to submit the final report will exempt all team members from future mini-grant funding.

Expected completion date: April 7, 2020

The final report is due 90 days after the expected completion date. Final reports should be submitted to the Diversity and Inclusion Office.

Budget Overview			
	Requested Grant Funds	Funding from other sources	TOTAL BUDGET
STIPEND	\$3400	\$600	\$4000
HONORARIA	\$500	\$250	\$750
TRAVEL	\$250	\$100	\$350
FOOD	\$250	0	\$250
RENTALS			
PRINTING & DUPLICATING			
PROMOTION	\$200	\$0	\$200
SUPPLIES & POSTAGE	\$400	\$100	\$500
RESOURCE MATERIALS			
ASSESSMENT TOOLS			
OTHER	0	\$100	\$100
TOTAL	\$5000	\$1150	\$6150

Itemized list of Anticipated Expenses:

- \$4000: stipend for Visiting Designer
- \$250: stipend for Landscape Architect presentation to students;
- \$ 250 stipend for Architect ;
- \$ 250 stipend for soccer field authorities
- \$500: materials to include sketchbooks for students, models, (students will learn to build their own models) CAD print outs
- \$100: gift cards for ID volunteers
- \$250: food for reception at SWCC for community presentation by students

\$350 bus cost: visit to play and learning spaces like Meijer Gardens Children's Park (weather permitting)

\$ 200 Photography and translation

Itemized list of funds anticipated from other sources:

\$200 in kind- Architect

\$100 in travel funds - KCAD

\$100 in gift cards for volunteers – Madcap Coffee

Student Advancement Foundation will be funding all construction and equipment costs for the playground

Amount requested from the Faculty and Staff Diversity Mini-Grant. \$ 5000.