CSEF: An internship program at community arts organizations for Honors College students

Megan Rokop  
*University of Massachusetts Boston, megan.rokop@umb.edu*

Michael Metzger  
*University of Massachusetts Boston, michael.metzger@umb.edu*

Rajini Srikanth  
*University of Massachusetts Boston, rajini.srikanth@umb.edu*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters](http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters)  
Part of the [Community Engagement Commons](http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters), [Higher Education Administration Commons](http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters), and the [Service Learning Commons](http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters)

**Recommended Citation**  
Rokop, Megan; Metzger, Michael; and Srikanth, Rajini, "CSEF: An internship program at community arts organizations for Honors College students" (2014). *Office of Community Partnerships Posters*. Paper 232.  
[http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters/232](http://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters/232)

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Community Partnerships at ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. It has been accepted for inclusion in Office of Community Partnerships Posters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact library.uasc@umb.edu.
CSEF: An internship program at community arts organizations for Honors College students

Megan Rokop, Michael Metzger, and Rajini Srikanth
Honors College, University of Massachusetts Boston

Summary

• CSEF (the "Creative and Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship") runs from August 2013 through May 2014 as part of the Creative Economy Initiative, funded by the UMass President’s Office
• CSEF aims to provide students the opportunity to intern at a community arts organization, and provide local organizations the opportunity to work closely with UMass Boston students & faculty
• Three intern teams immersed themselves in issues their sites were facing, proposed potential solutions, and are now using a $4000 mini-grant to implement those solutions at their partner sites

Approach

Program components:
• August 2013: Student applications & interviews
• Sept & Oct 2013: Student skill-building sessions
• Oct-Dec 2013: Brainstorming, grant proposal writing, and presentations of those proposals
• Jan-April 2014: Implementation of proposed solutions
• May 2014: Final presentations of results

Methods of assessment & evaluation:
• Student writings & presentations during skill-building
• Midterm surveys of students each semester
• Midterm interviews of site supervisors each semester
• Weekly check-in meetings with each intern
• Process of creating final proposals & presentations

Goals

• Students will learn a wide range of skills necessary to effectively partner with a community organization:
  • Analyzing problems & brainstorming solutions
  • Maximizing effectiveness of teams & meetings
  • Grant writing and delivering oral presentations
  • Evaluating outcomes of their work
  • Budgeting, marketing & other skills
• Partner sites will form close connections with UMass Boston faculty & staff – and vice versa
• An issue each site faces will be impacted by the mini-grants, and the work & perspective of the students

Results from our Intern Teams & Partner Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner organization:</th>
<th>Student interns:</th>
<th>Advisors for Intern Team:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMPANY ONE</td>
<td>James, Jasmine &amp; Santi</td>
<td>Sarah Shampnois, Cliff Odle &amp; Rafael Jaen, Megan Rokop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hibernian Hall</td>
<td>Kayla &amp; Sam</td>
<td>Dillon Bustin &amp; Nicola Williams, Pacey Foster, Megan Rokop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next Steps

• Student teams will continue implementation, and then present their work and results on Thursday May 22nd from 6-8pm in the Campus Center
• We will brainstorm ways to address current challenges during any future renditions of the program, such as:
  • Teams of 3 interns make scheduling group meeting times prohibitively difficult (so teams of 2 or individual work may be better)
  • Teams require close and frequent supervision (so assigning a dedicated faculty member to run the training & check-ins is needed)
  • Viable partner sites can be hard to recruit (so it is critical to start early and strategize about ideal site size, location, and infrastructure)
  • Students are extremely busy with courses & jobs (so the program may be best if it requires full-time commitments over summer or winter, or if acceptance requires limits on course-load & work hours)

Acknowledgements

• We thank the UMass President’s Office for the Creative Economy grant that generously funded this project.
• We thank Benyamin Lichtenstein, Pam Jones, Luciano Ramos, Shelby Harris, and Sherrod Williams for delivering guest lectures.

Contact Information

• Megan Rokop, Megan.Rokop@umb.edu
• Michael Metzger, Michael.Metzger@umb.edu
• Joyce Morrissey, Joyce.Morrissey@umb.edu
• Rajini Srikanth, Rajini.Srikanth@umb.edu