

PROGRAM:

Global Voices

OBJECTIVES:

While visiting a college campus, 7th grade students will work with college students who are learning foreign languages and who are from other countries. During their college visit, 7th grade students will also:

- a) Learn phrases from various foreign languages.
- b) Experience the culture from countries around the world.
- c) Write about the experience at the end of the event.

LOCATION:

College Campus Ballroom or other large space

DESCRIPTION:

Global Voices was a successful event where seventh graders got to experience being on a university campus and learn about different languages and cultures. The event began at 9am and ended at 1 pm. Times can vary depending how far the school is from the campus.

The Bridges Project partnered with the Foreign Languages Department and recruited students who were learning, French, Japanese, Chinese, American Sign Language, and Russian.

There were stations placed along the walls of the ballroom. In the center of the ballroom were long tables and chairs for the opening and ending of the event. The students rotated 3 times, with each session lasting 45 minutes. Lunch was provided by CWU Dining Services and was paid for by CWU GEAR UP. Some of the activities included: origami, Chinese calligraphy, Japanese animation, and American Sign Language. The French station gave students the experience of a French Bistro and taught them the foods and how to order in French.

In addition to leading the activities, the college students also talked about what it is like to be in college. At the end of the event, 7th grade students were asked to write about their experience. One student said that he didn't think he could go to college, but, after this event, he realized that he could. College mentors collected the essays and The Bridges Project posted the essays on their website.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:

PREPARATION ACTIVITIES:

1. Choose a date between October and March and meet with the Foreign Languages Chair and faculty to recruit students and to confirm if the event's date.
2. Must check with the Scheduling Center of the campus to make sure the ballroom or room of similar size is available on the date chosen.

3. Meet with mentors and foreign language students to plan the activity that will be at each station, time of setup, clean up, and post event typing of essays to put on website.
4. Get a list of supplies and purchase or collect supplies needed for each station. Each 7th grade student receives a CWU folder, three pieces of lined paper, a pencil, and name tag. Folders can be donated by the CWU Admissions office or be bought at the bookstore. Mentors went to local stores and big box stores to get donations of supplies.
5. Confirm with scheduling office for room setup, including microphone, projector, laptop, internet, tables, chairs, etc.
6. Confirm with middle school time of arrival and departure
7. Confirm total numbers of guests and report to Dining Services and submit a catering request.
8. Prepare the guest student folders, ready with: paper, pencil, and name tag.
9. Ask the middle school to divide their students into groups of ten. Make sure that there is enough activity stations set-up to accommodate the number of groups that will be participating that day. It is best that each station handle a maximum of 10 students at a time.
10. Have at least 3 digital cameras and one or two video cameras to document the event to post on web site.
11. As part of field trip sign-up, the middle school(s) must include a signed release form from parents indicating it is okay to go on field trips to take pictures of their child and post them on the website.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES:

- a) Clean up room to avoid clean up charges, or at least reduce clean up charges.
- b) Put away all supplies and thank college students for their work.
- c) All essays that mentors collected must be typed up and saved in a file that is sent to the webmaster of The Bridges Project, including pictures. Assign mentors or someone to do the typing. May need 2 to 3 people depending on how many essays are collected.
- d) Thank you cards are sent out to all departments involved and college students.

COSTS OR COST CONSIDERATIONS:

Event costs depend on many factors. Are the mentors getting paid to help that week (the program paid mentors \$10 an hour, plus 3% benefits)? The foreign language students were not paid. They participated for class credit or volunteered. Only supplies were provided to each station. Mentors were paid for helping and keeping students focused. Lunch price varies depending on what is ordered. Buffets are less expensive than served meals. Supplies can be purchased or donated by businesses and/or the school. Middle schools must also take in consideration the cost of transportation to the college campus and back.

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