

Interpersonal Violence Prevention Education

Interactive Peer Theater

Criteria for Institution Selection

- Considered to be “Best Practices” within the field of health promotion (ACHA Guidelines 2007)
 - Primary prevention (dispel rape myths, includes healthy (sexual) relationships, role of alcohol, consent, self-respect etc. in addition to campus and community services)
 - Multifaceted
 - Peer-based
 - Involves men and women
 - Bystander behavior is addressed
- DOJ grant recipients
- Theater-based approach
 - Interactive theater

Methods

- Pilot IVP benchmarking survey – 2006
- 50+ question survey developed for peer theater
- Emailed invitation to participate
- Participants previewed the survey
- Telephone interview (30 - 90 minutes)

Institutions of Higher Education

□ University of Texas, Austin*	<i>Voices Against Violence</i>	36,900
□ University of Alabama*	<i>Unscripted</i>	23,800
□ Western Michigan University	<i>Great Sexpectations</i>	20,000
□ Central Michigan University*	<i>No Zebras-No Excuses</i>	21,000
□ Michigan State University	<i>In Your Face Theater</i>	33,500
□ Rutgers University (NB)*	<i>Scream Theater</i>	26,000
□ University of Illinois, UC	<i>Inner Voices</i>	30,000
□ Illinois State University	<i>Guerrilla Theatre</i>	20,260
□ University Northern Iowa*	<i>SAVE</i>	10,700

- *Interpersonal violence only

Department Theater Program Resides

- ❑ UT A Counseling
- ❑ U of AL Women's Resource Center
- ❑ WMU HS/Health Promotion and Educ.
- ❑ CMU Sexual Aggression Svcs/Dean of Students
- ❑ MSU HS/Health Education Svcs.
- ❑ RU Sexual Assault Svcs/Crime Victim Assistance
- ❑ UIUC HS/Counseling/Theater
- ❑ ISU Counseling
- ❑ UNI Communication Studies

Reporting Structure

- ❑ UT A VP for Student Affairs
- ❑ U of AL VP for Student Affairs
- ❑ WMU VP for Student Affairs
- ❑ CMU Exec VP/Provost
- ❑ MSU Provost of Medical College
- ❑ RU VP for Human Resources
- ❑ UIUC VC for Student Affairs
- ❑ ISU VP for Student Affairs
- ❑ UNI Provost

Why Theater?

- ❑ UT A 2001 DOJ grant; Use of peers; uses real life scenarios
- ❑ U of AL 1999 DOJ grant; interactive
- ❑ WMU 1993 by Dir. Health Promo and Ed. re: sexual health
- ❑ CMU 1997 by Univ Pres, Univ Council and Dean of Students; impact
- ❑ MSU 1994 by Health Ed Svcs Coordinator re: sexual health; engaging
- ❑ RU 1991 by request of RU President to address IVP; realistic
- ❑ UIUC 1995 by HS and Counseling to address binge drinking; multi-sensory
- ❑ ISU 1992 by Counseling to address diversity issues; creativity
- ❑ UNI 1996 by instructor for conflict resolution; 2000 DOJ grant; interactive

Has Theater Enhanced Peer Education?

- ❑ UT A Yes: student-centered scenes change (PTO)
- ❑ U of AL Yes: more interaction from audience – increases learning (PTO)
- ❑ WMU Yes: enhanced visual medium; peer-based
- ❑ CMU Yes: supports peer advocacy; targets first year students
- ❑ MSU Yes: greater engagement of audience/participants
- ❑ RU Yes: greater audience response, realistic scenes, entertaining
- ❑ UIUC Yes; multi-sensory and interactive
- ❑ ISU Yes; eliminates “talking heads”; impacts peers
- ❑ UNI Yes; very interactive (PTO)

Educational Theater Presentation Schedule

- ❑ UT A Summer orientation, move-in days, upon request, classes
- ❑ U of AL 108 orientation class presentations the first 4 weeks; theater thereafter
- ❑ WMU Upon request for groups and halls; curriculum infusion
- ❑ CMU Welcome Week for all freshmen
- ❑ MSU Upon request for groups and halls; occasional curriculum infusion
- ❑ RU Summer orientation sessions/move-in day; upon request (halls, classes)
- ❑ UIUC Alcohol skit within first 2 weeks for incoming students; other topics upon request
- ❑ ISU Move-in weekend for freshmen; upon request
- ❑ UNI Move-in weekend for freshmen; upon request

IVP RA/CA Curriculum Requirement?

- ❑ UT A Yes
- ❑ U of AL No
- ❑ WMU No for general population; yes for RAs
- ❑ CMU Yes
- ❑ MSU No
- ❑ RU Yes by President; training provided to encourage attendance
- ❑ UIUC No
- ❑ ISU No; only diversity skit within the first 6 weeks
- ❑ UNI No

Mandatory Attendance?

- ❑ UT A Yes: orientation is required for all entering UGs
- ❑ U of AL No; topics presented in lecture format in FYE classes 1st 4 wks
- ❑ WMU No
- ❑ CMU Yes for all freshmen; athletes, band, etc. on alternate yrs.
- ❑ MSU No
- ❑ RU Yes for all entering students during orientation
- ❑ UIUC No; strongly encouraged
- ❑ ISU Yes but an illusion; RAs trained to encourage attendance
- ❑ UNI ?? – letter from VPSA “strongly encouraging attendance”

Target Specific Populations at the Beginning of the Academic Year?

- ❑ UT A Freshmen, International, orientation leaders, TAs
- ❑ U of AL First year orientation classes; not theater
- ❑ WMU Welcome Week for freshmen; not theater
- ❑ CMU Incoming students Thurs/Fri/Sat of Move-In Weekend
- ❑ MSU Incoming students/FYE courses
- ❑ RU Incoming students; athletes; parents in the future
- ❑ UIUC Incoming students through traditional mode; theater later
- ❑ ISU Welcome Weekend for freshmen
- ❑ UNI Incoming students

Separate Men and Women for Performances?

- ❑ UT A Only if students self-separate (e.g., Greeks)
- ❑ U of AL No; mixed gender issues are part of the interaction
- ❑ WMU No; skits cover more than interpersonal violence
- ❑ CMU Only athletes depending on sport
- ❑ MSU No; both should hear gender-specific messages
- ❑ RU Only athletes depending on sport
- ❑ UIUC No; possibly in the future
- ❑ ISU No; skits cover more than interpersonal violence
- ❑ UNI No; vignettes cover more than interpersonal violence

Men's Group/Program on Campus?

- ❑ UT A Prior to peer theater (2001)
- ❑ U of AL Yes (traditional) – for outreach/student organization
- ❑ WMU No – too difficult to recruit
- ❑ CMU No
- ❑ MSU Yes: One in Four (MASIV)
- ❑ RU No
- ❑ UIUC Yes: One in Four (MASIV)
- ❑ ISU No
- ❑ UNI No

Primary Goals/Objectives of Theater Presentations

- ❑ UT A Prevention education, advocacy, resource info
- ❑ U of AL Gen. VAW issues/Specifics if follow-up sessions are requested
- ❑ WMU Prevention, resource info
- ❑ CMU Prevention, resource info
- ❑ MSU Prevention education, advocacy, resource info
- ❑ RU Prevention, dispel rape myths, resource info
- ❑ UIUC Prevention, dispel myths, resource info, survivor empowerment
- ❑ ISU Prevention, dispel myths, introspection
- ❑ UNI Prevention, dispel myths

Topics Presented

- ❑ UT A DV, SA, stalking, healthy relationships, AOD, dating violence
- ❑ U of AL DV, SA, stalking, AOD, dating violence
- ❑ WMU General VAW, AOD, sexual health, diversity and “isms”
- ❑ CMU Sexual aggression-related
- ❑ MSU DV, SA, stalking, healthy relationships, AOD, dating violence +
- ❑ RU DV, SA, stalking, healthy relationships, AOD, dating violence +
- ❑ UIUC DV, SA, stalking, healthy relationships, AOD, dating violence +
- ❑ ISU DV, SA, stalking, healthy relationships, AOD, dating violence +
- ❑ UNI DV, SA, stalking, healthy relationships, AOD, dating violence +

Performance Structure

- ❑ UT A Key points (improvisational); audience participates; min. structure (POT)
- ❑ U of AL Key points (improvisational); audience participates; min. structure (POT)
- ❑ WMU Key points (rehearsed script) + disc.; alcohol scene is interrupted
- ❑ CMU 12 structured vignettes followed by student-led discussion
- ❑ MSU Aud. chooses amg 12 structured vignettes; improv MC btw; no disc.
- ❑ RU Semi-scripted scene followed by improv disc. w/ actors in/out of character
- ❑ UIUC Structured vignettes followed by discussion
- ❑ ISU Rehearsed vignettes followed by discussion
- ❑ UNI Key points (improvisational); audience participates; min. structure (POT)

Counselor Present at Performances?

- ❑ UT A Yes from Counseling
- ❑ U of AL Yes from WRC and Counseling
- ❑ WMU No; interpersonal violence is not the only topic
- ❑ CMU No; other professional staff (e.g., Hall Director)
- ❑ MSU No; other professional staff (e.g., Hall Director)
- ❑ RU No; other professional staff (from dept.)
- ❑ UIUC Yes from Counseling
- ❑ ISU Yes from Counseling
- ❑ UNI Yes from Counseling

Number of Students Participating in Presentations

- ❑ UT A 4-7 actors/performance; 2 facilitators (cast of 16)
- ❑ U of AL Quantity varies/performance; 1 facilitator (cast of 8-10)
- ❑ WMU 6-12/performance; Dir. facilitates (cast of 15 – 20)
- ❑ CMU 2-4/vignette; 2 for props, 2 for light/sound (cast of 10-15)
- ❑ MSU 1-5/performance (cast of 8-12)
- ❑ RU 1-6/performance (cast of 10-15)
- ❑ UIUC 1-6/performance (cast of 10-15)
- ❑ ISU 1-4/vignette; 2 facilitators (cast of 15-20)
- ❑ UNI Quantity varies/performance; 1 facilitator (cast of 10-20)

Recruitment Process

- ❑ UT A Program well-known; word of mouth
- ❑ U of AL Program well-known; word of mouth
- ❑ WMU Advertise in classes, radio, newspaper
- ❑ CMU Advertise; program well-known (2 year commitment)
- ❑ MSU Program well-know; advertise at orientation
- ❑ RU Program well-known; word of mouth; advertise
- ❑ UIUC Advertise for open call auditions
- ❑ ISU Program well-known; word of mouth; advertise
- ❑ UNI Program well-known; word of mouth

Partnership with Theater Department

- ❑ UT A No; motivation of actors and education is the goal...not theater training
- ❑ U of AL Casual; motivation of actors and commitment is the goal...not theater
- ❑ WMU Casual; motivation of actors and commitment is the goal...not theater
- ❑ CMU Casual; participation is unrelated to major
- ❑ MSU Yes; incentive is to obtain acting experience
- ❑ RU No; motivation of actors and education is the goal...not theater training
- ❑ UIUC Yes via Assistant Program Dir. has 'adjunct' status
- ❑ ISU No; seen on campus as two different types of "theater"
- ❑ UNI No; motivation of actors and education is the goal...not theater training

Student Actors Paid?

- ❑ UT A No - volunteer
- ❑ U of AL \$50/week stipend for 8 hours
- ❑ WMU No - volunteer
- ❑ CMU No – volunteer; trip to FL
- ❑ MSU Student Dir and Assist. Dir. only; rest volunteer
- ❑ RU \$25/performance
- ❑ UIUC Paid after 3 semesters of participation
- ❑ ISU No – volunteer + food
- ❑ UNI Yes; semester stipend

Peer Educator/Actor Training

- ❑ UT A Two 3 credit classes
- ❑ U of AL Two weekend retreats + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ WMU One independent study class + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ CMU 80 hours beginning mid-July + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ MSU One for-credit class + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ RU Several retreats + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ UIUC Several for-credit classes offered + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ ISU Workshops + weekly rehearsals
- ❑ UNI One for-credit class + follow-up workshops and rehearsals

Level of Support from Administration and Campus Community for Educational Theater

- ❑ UT A Very supportive; admin. has absorbed financial support
- ❑ U of AL Supportive faculty and administration
- ❑ WMU "Pro-forma" as part of Health Promotion and Educ.
- ❑ CMU Supportive faculty (attend presentations)
- ❑ MSU Supportive mid-managers; under radar of sr. admin.
- ❑ RU Institutionalized within 3 years of start
- ❑ UIUC Admin. support; co-sponsored through 3 campus units
- ❑ ISU ISU Pres. introduces troupe; off-campus orientation requests
- ❑ UNI New sr. admin supportive; encouraging DOJ application

Assessment/Evaluation Process

- ❑ UT A Satisfaction, Knowledge, Recall
- ❑ U of AL Student Learning Outcomes: audience and actors
- ❑ WMU Satisfaction, knowledge, intended behavior change
- ❑ CMU Knowledge, intended behavior change; recently follow-up surveys
- ❑ MSU Knowledge, recall, behavior impact (L/T), intended behavior change
- ❑ RU Evolving to learning outcomes d/t social desirability of current process
- ❑ UIUC Immediate knowledge and recall
- ❑ ISU Anecdotal – difficult to measure SLO amidst emotional responses
- ❑ UNI Immediate feedback: knowledge, recall, satisfaction

Estimated Annual Budget Dedicated (excluding staff salaries)

- ❑ UT A N/A; \$300,000 for 3yr DOJ grant; fin. support for professional staff by UT A
- ❑ U of AL N/A; DOJ grant; \$15,000/yr from student fees
- ❑ WMU N/A; part of Health Service fee
- ❑ CMU ~\$6,000; DOJ grant for SA counselor
- ❑ MSU <\$5,000
- ❑ RU ~\$30,000
- ❑ UIUC N/A; is an independent entity with financial support from 3 units; fee-based
- ❑ ISU ~\$1200
- ❑ UNI ~\$10,000

Number of FTEs for Peer Theater

- ❑ UT A 3 professional; 1 sec; 2 WS students/ actors
- ❑ U of AL 2 professional; p/t sec/ actors
- ❑ WMU 1 professional; 1WS student/ actors
- ❑ CMU 1.25 professional; in-kind sec./ students + actors
- ❑ MSU .25 professional; 2 p/t students/ actors
- ❑ RU 4.5 professional; 1.5 sec.; 6-8 students/ actors
- ❑ UIUC 1.0 professional; in-kind sec/ students + actors
- ❑ ISU .25 professional; .5 GA/ students + actors
- ❑ UNI .25 professional; .5 GA, in-kind sec/ students + actors

Additional Revenue Generated?

- ❑ UT A Off-campus presentations; \$200-500/performance
- ❑ U of AL STOP (state) grants
- ❑ WMU Off-campus presentations: \$200/performance
- ❑ CMU Nextel provides cell phones for peers (trained to respond)
- ❑ MSU None
- ❑ RU DOJ; Verizon for cell phones; state grants; off-campus perfs
- ❑ UIUC None
- ❑ ISU Off-campus presentations; \$500/performance
- ❑ UNI None

Essential Components for Effective Educational Theater (excluding finances)

- ❑ UT A Motivated actors; supportive colleagues/administration
- ❑ U of AL Motivated actors; commitment to issue
- ❑ WMU Training actors on the issues
- ❑ CMU Input from Counseling, training actors, advocacy
- ❑ MSU Focus on issue; student engagement
- ❑ RU Institutional support; sufficient staff
- ❑ UIUC University commitment
- ❑ ISU Peers' relationships with each other
- ❑ UNI Administration support from top down

Advice for a University Health Educator Wishing to Establish Educational Theater

- ❑ UT A Dynamic and real scenarios/scripts
- ❑ U of AL Dynamic and real scenarios/scripts
- ❑ WMU Stay abreast of best practices re: relevancy to students
- ❑ CMU Publicity about the subject and services
- ❑ MSU Believe in it; financial resources
- ❑ RU Lots of work; financial resources; alliance with athletics
- ❑ UIUC Remain excited/committed to format
- ❑ ISU Patience
- ❑ UNI Boal's Theater of the Oppressed methodology

Goals

- Adopt Boal's Theater of the Oppressed: Allows for an opportunity to reveal, to express and space to practice
- Provide skill development:
 - Consent
 - SA: sex is the vehicle for dominance, power and control
 - Bystander intervention
 - Risk reduction for women
 - Increase reporting
 - Conflict as lesson (Hall)
- Recruit and train 10+ students fall '07 + script dev.
- Debut during SAAM '08
- Ready to perform to all freshmen fall '08

Opportunities (a.k.a challenges)

- Develop a student-centered, NIU-specific identity
- Succinct yet dynamic messages
 - Relevant to diverse student backgrounds
 - Student attention span
- Institutionalization
 - New Student Welcome activities
 - Follow-up sessions throughout the year
 - TBTN activities
 - SAAM activities
 - Recognized among Greek community, athletics, student orgs.
 - Partner with MASIV
- Assessment
 - SLO – NIU as a model program
- Finances
 - Stipends for actors
 - Incentives for evaluations, give-aways, identity markers
 - Equipment/props

Demonstration

Questions