

WMHT Community Advisory Board Meeting | Children and Education Subcommittee
Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 4pm, WMHT Public Media

In attendance:

Jordana Dym
Obaroene Otitigbe
Shameka Andrews

Staff:

Robert Altman
Joseph Tovaes
Mary Gribulis

- Welcome and Introductions
- Presentation of potential storytelling project highlighting individuals in the education system with diverse points of view.
 - Stories could include teachers, bus drivers, administrative professionals, after school counselors, and others.
 - Participants would work with a coach to refine their story and its delivery.
 - Stories would have a time limit and be packaged for digital distribution and a television program. They would also be livestreamed from WMHT's studios with a studio audience.
 - Discussion around why a focus on educators specifically. Clarified that Education is one theme and WMHT is working on some other themed storytelling projects, ie: The Helpers (WT) with a focus on healthcare.
 - Discussion of potential obstacles working with students if youth storytelling were to be pursued.
 - Conversation around not defining what 'Educator' or 'Helper' means in order to get some more diverse perspectives.
 - Emphasis that format should be fully structured and understood by participants. Mr. O noted that he would love to help with this.
 - Discussion about how to gather potential participants and outreach should span rural and urban areas.
 - Noted that stories told in other languages should be part of this initiative.
 - The Moth, an educational workshop culminating in 5-minute stories by a selection of students, will be at Skidmore again this fall
 - Discussion about time frame of soliciting stories based on teacher's schedules. Suggested that we consider the first week in October.
 - Conversation about how stories are solicited and how stories are selected.
- Presentation of Proposal for Professional Development Days for Teachers. WMHT is an approved Continuing Education Teacher and Education (CTLE) Sponsor. PD Days would be held on Superintendent's Conference Days included on the Capital Region BOCES Calendar.
 - Suggestion that these programs are included in My Learning Plan, a database for PD Credits

- Conversation around utilizing the tools and skills WMHT has to offer including presentation skills, storytelling, media literacy, research, representation.
- Suggestion that WMHT convenes higher education institutions for larger discussion about internship opportunities for history and media students. Also, take a day or two to create an immersive program so students can understand what it's like to work in a television and radio studio.
- Discussion about Fifteen Minutes Max project at the College of St Rose.
- Innovation Hall Project Discussion including a potential event in WMHT's studios in March 2020.
 - Suggested that we look into some of the work being done by colleges and universities to assist those living with disabilities.
 - Suggested that we reach out to Communication Directors.
 - Discussion about Robotics and competitions.
 - Discussion about video games as learning tools ie: video games designed to help children with autism learn.