Boston Youth Arts Evaluation Project

Images, Numbers, Stories
The Theater Offensive: True Colors
Our play inspires others—our play helped others become more aware of our community...at least one member from every audience leaves impacted.
- True Colors youth
In True Colors I've learned to not always hide in my shell from everyone 99% of the time. I've learned that having fun while being yourself is the most sensational feeling ever. - True Colors youth
My goal was Creativity and Innovation. I used to play it safe and now I think outside the box and dare to be different.

- True Colors youth
This year I have become more of a leader in the community and have come to realize how proud I am of how far I've come.

- True Colors youth

100% agree or strongly agree that they have improved in Leadership because of the program.
I made a lot of good friends and got rid of bad ones. I feel like I have restored relationships that were being lost. Overall I've had very good relationship with friends and family. - True Colors youth
Hyde Square Task Force: Ritmo en Acción
This year, I don't really get in trouble. I'm more friendly. I changed my attitude. Now I care more about things. One big thing I changed about myself is making healthy and better choices. - Ritmo youth

93% agree or strongly agree, “I think about how my past experiences and choices have influenced who I am.”

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They (my relationships) changed a lot—more friends and more community involvement. Before I was alone. Now I have friends. - Ritmo youth

In Ritmo, 100% of teens agree or strongly agree, “This year, I have done something valuable for or in my community.” This shows an increase of 43 percentage points from the beginning of the year.
I have been learning how to listen and talk to others. I also am learning how to respect the decision of others, how to create, and how to be responsible and organized. - Ritmo youth

86% agree or strongly agree, “I use feedback (criticism and praise) to improve my work.”
This program is like the sound of Bachata music and the feel of the wind because it reminds me of when we turn a lot in dance class. - Ritmo youth
This program made me open up my eyes and made me realize that if I do my best, I can achieve a lot. The more I listen, the more I will learn.  - Ritmo youth
I wanted to become someone who meant something. I have. - ZUMIX youth

92% of ZUMIX youth agree or strongly agree, “I have improved as an artist and feel proud of my contributions.”
Collaborating with three other guys seemed like a challenge at first, especially if we were to create three original songs, but through communication and determination we did it. - ZUMIX youth
ZUMIX is like a portal. ZUMIX is a place to switch gears and cool off, let life breathe while still being productive and having fun. - ZUMIX youth
I've been more focused on college-related work to improve my future. I am taking bass lessons again to improve my talent and find a way to interact with other people and bond with my talent. - ZUMIX youth
ZUMIX is like a never-ending cone of ice cream with many different and indescribable flavors. - ZUMIX youth
Medicine Wheel Productions
At Medicine Wheel, I learned talents in art I never knew I could do.

- Medicine Wheel youth
Last year if someone told me to work on art I would have laughed in their face and walked away. But now I would be the person walking up to people telling them to make art. - Medicine Wheel youth
Before coming here I never really listened or cared about much, now I understand how people work and what I need to do to do my job.

- Medicine Wheel youth

93% of teens agree or strongly agree, “I am comfortable working on projects with people from different backgrounds.”

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This program is like love, you always feel accepted.
- Medicine Wheel youth
I see the Medicine Wheel employees to be honest hard working people who are just trying to make a difference in today's world. That is something that keeps me motivated. - Medicine Wheel youth
I came in here a drug addict, left, and returned a soldier and honored member of society—only because of this program, honestly.

- Medicine Wheel youth
Raw Art Works
Before this year, I didn't really use my talents to make anything, while now I'm filled with creativity.
- Raw Art Works youth

88% of RAW teens agree or strongly agree, “I have knowledge of the artistic process and have skills in the arts.” This increased 22 percentage points from the beginning of the year.
In school, I learn how to read and write, but here I learn how to speak, and how to express thoughts, ideas, and feelings.

- Raw Art Works youth
RAW is like the ease to rainy days. The take-away to my problems. The scratch of an itch that has been there for the last five minutes. A getaway. - Raw Art Works youth
You all changed me and granted me a new perspective on who I am and exactly what I am capable of.
- Raw Art Works youth
RAW is like the father I never had.

- Raw Art Works youth