The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum

Finding Common Ground: A Study in Collaboration and Innovation

New England Museum Association Conference
Friday, November 6, 2015

Session Notes
Finding Common Ground: 
A Study in Collaboration and Innovation

New England Museum Association Conference
Friday, November 6, 2015

Tracy Moore, (panel moderator) Director of Public Programs and Audience Engagement, joined The Aldrich in October 2011 and focuses on program evaluation and strategic planning, audience development, and the expansion of artist-centric programs for all audiences, including students. She has twenty years of experience managing contemporary art-centered programs, including as Director of Programs and Exhibitions at The New Children’s Museum in San Diego from 2007 to 2011, where she launched the organization’s high caliber, artist-driven educational experiences for over 170,000 visitors each year. Moore leads advocacy for the Common Ground program within museum and education communities.

Michelle Friedman, Manager of Education Programs and Youth Initiatives, joined The Aldrich full time in July 2011, after more than two years serving both education and visitor services. With a background in both arts administration and arts education, she has more than six years experience programming contemporary arts related workshops for the local community. Friedman serves as the assessment coordinator for the Common Ground program.

Mary Newbery, currently a doctoral candidate at Teachers College, Columbia University, in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching, is the Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator at Side By Side Charter School in Norwalk, CT, a Pre-K–8 regional charter school with a social justice curricular focus and mission. Newbery became interested in curriculum studies as a Master’s student at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, and her research foci include poststructural theory, feminist post-qualitative methodologies, and complicating conceptions of categorical identity in contemporary public schools.

Barbara Jennes is an English Teacher at Scotts Ridge Middle School (SRMS) in Ridgefield, CT. Before joining the SRMS staff in 2004, Jennes taught English and science at Whisconier Middle School in Brookfield. Prior to teaching, Jennes enjoyed a 25-year career in writing and editing, working for such corporations as GE, IBM, and Xerox, and such magazines as Vibe, YM, Rolling Stone, Premiere, and Martha Stewart Living.
Finding Common Ground:
A Study in Collaboration and Innovation

New England Museum Association Conference
Friday, November 6, 2015

Persona: A parent member of the PTA who advocates for student experiences that engage the whole child.

Respond based on the above persona:

What are the one or two top priorities of your institution/organization?

What is the most significant challenge that your institution/organization faces?

What are your personal passions/goals?