A CLOSER LOOK

Shapesville Where You Can Be U: A Community Project, based on the book Shapesville*, is a collaborative project between Towson University Dance and YOUR community. This delightful dance and series of workshops takes participants on a journey to Shapesville where “it’s not the size, shape or color you are but what’s in your heart that really matters.” The project, adaptable to different age groups, uses arts integration, reading, writing and discussion to create a dance adaptation of the book where all participants perform. The experience creatively teaches a positive healthy body image and self-esteem, community building, diversity and promotes a healthy lifestyle. By creatively exploring movement skills and developing literacy in language arts and dance, students are empowered through self-expression resulting in the development of original characters that represent themselves. These characters, danced by the participants, become a part of the book and culminating production.

The National Core Arts Standards, and the Maryland College and Career Ready Language Arts Standards are addressed. Previous partnerships have included The Chesapeake Arts Center, Towson University Community Dance, Glenelg Country School, and the Towson University Dance Education Concentration.

*Based on the Book Shapesville ©2003 by Andy Mills and Rebecca Osborn, illustrations by Erica Netz; used with permission from the publisher, Gurze Books, Carlsbad, CA.

SERVICES/SOLUTIONS/OUTCOMES

FOR PRE K-12 STUDENTS:
• Demonstrate an understanding of diversity by community building through creating, performing and sharing art and dance
• Recognize and practice positive ways to create a healthy, realistic body image and self-esteem
• Develop artistic and language arts literacy

FOR TU COLLEGE STUDENTS:
• Develop teaching strategies and methods through experiential fieldwork experiences with Shapesville

FOR BTU PARTNERS:
• Lead the community by demonstrating and promoting diversity through creating partnerships and collaborations
• Create opportunities for academic and lifestyle improvements for the organization’s targeted populations through offering quality educational and artistic experiences

Continued >

https://youtu.be/M79zF1Bz8xU
@Shapesvilleconductor

www.towson.edu/btu
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PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Chesapeake Arts Center
www.chesapeakearts.org

Towson University Community Dance
www.towson.edu/campus/artsculture/centers/communitydance

Glenelg Country School
www.glenelg.org

Towson University Dance Education Concentration
www.towson.edu/cofac/departments/dance/performance/education.html

www.towson.edu/btu