



Presenting Cultural Heritage Reflection Journal



Use the following pages to note aspects of your experience while attending a cultural heritage festival or community event. Keep in mind unique interactions, experiences, and biases. Remember to take photos, participate in events, attend multiple programs, eat at the festival food tents, note access to the bathrooms, and actively make connections to how your own organization could use similar or improve upon presentation techniques. We hope that by participating in this active reflection, you will enrich your own understanding of ways that cultural heritage programming can be best presented in New Hampshire.

Name of Cultural Heritage Event:

Date:

Location:

Time of day you visited:

Festival Design

Signage – Enough information? Too much information? Good/bad placement?

NOTE: A good example of signage and your reasons for choosing it:

Layout – Easy to get around? Themes well explicated and easy to follow?

NOTE: Any problems in layout?

Tents and structures (Interior/Exterior) – Attractive? Fitting themes? Adding to overall program?

NOTE: One of your favorite tents/structures/areas and reasons for choosing:

Demonstration Areas

Demonstrations: – List the different demonstrations you attended. How informative and engaging was the oral and hands on presentation? – Was there additional information about the craft or process? Were there tools or supporting materials to enhance the demonstration? Was this an informative learning experience? What were the connections to overall importance within culture?

NOTE: A particularly good demonstration and your reason for choosing:

Performance Stages:

Try to catch a performance at its beginning and then stay for a few numbers if you have time. – Aesthetics of stage layout- cluttered, clean? Good presenter introductions? Engaging performances? Audience reactions are active and positive? List different types of performances you attended.

NOTE: Any observations:

Discussions Stages:

Were there any discussion stages or oral presentations? Try to attend at least ten minutes of different discussion events. Which ones did you attend? What did the presenter do particularly well? How did they thread themes and questions between participants? Did the discussion clear adding to theme(s) of program? Was the audience engaged?

NOTE: Good/bad aspects of the discussion in your opinion.

Learning Experiences/Activities:

Try to participate and/or watch several different learning experiences and activities. Which ones did you attend? Craft, dance, storytelling? Were the activities for youth or any age group? Is there a direct connection to the program theme? What were participants of different age groups excited or reluctant to participate in? What different methods for sharing and engaging in information were used?

NOTE: Interactions:

Visitor Comfort & Retainment

NOTE: movement through programs – places to rest and relax – inviting spaces versus unattractive areas or areas discouraging visitors-access to food and drink- attendee flow, and encouragement to attend multiple festival programs

NOTE: At least one place where you felt most comfortable/least comfortable- a resource that you had access to that made your experience more enjoyable:

OVERALL IMPRESSIONS/OBSERVATIONS & OTHER NOTES:

I noticed . . . I love the way . . . I don't understand . . . Sometimes I felt ... I was surprised A misconception I had before today was . . . For future festivals and exhibits, I suggest . . . This___can be adapted to fit my organization's mission... What I learned today can be used . . . The presentation of multiple themes made me think about.... I would have liked to see...

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