Cultural Institutions in Teacher Education (CITE) Partnership

The Chicago History Museum

PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW: In partnership with Loyola University Chicago (LUC), The Chicago History Museum (CHM) reaches teacher candidates before they begin their classroom careers. The Chicago History Museum's mission is to share Chicago's stories, serving as a hub of scholarship and learning, inspiration and civic engagement. Museum educators model informal learning techniques based on the unique collections of CHM, which introduces teacher candidates to interdisciplinary approaches in regards to social science instruction.

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TEACHER CANDIDATE ENGAGEMENT

During the academic school year, teacher candidates will:
• Experience the behind-the-scenes planning process for exhibitions, including the application of developmental frameworks using Sensing Chicago and Facing Freedom exhibitions as case studies.
• Participate as learners in inquiry-based History a la Cart activity stations and student workshops in preparation for gallery observation.
• Observe field trip visitors to gain an understanding of student engagement within CHM’s informal learning environment.
• Engage in museum activities that incorporate primary sources and objects; best practices in social science instruction, which can be transferred to the formal learning setting.
• Synthesize and discuss learning experiences and gallery observations to make connections with Loyola coursework.
• Discover and use CHM online classroom resources.

INTENDED OUTCOMES

Through the Learning Lab experience at CHM, teacher candidates will:
• Feel confident in using the pedagogy and resources of CHM and other cultural institutions in their classrooms to foster student learning.
• Integrate material culture, such as objects and documents, into their social science instructional practice.
• Utilize CHM and other cultural institutions within their community as partners.
• Design interdisciplinary social science units.

BROADER IMPACTS

As a result of the partnership, CHM will:
• Deepen the relationship among CHM, LUC and the participating schools.
• Forge relationships with teacher candidates so that in their careers they will be users of CHM’s programs and curricula.
• Foster and grow relationships with peers at cultural institutions around the city, which may lead to future collaborations and projects.

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