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Professional Development: Extra-Curricular



Recently, I was invited by my friends in the Radical Education Reserach Collective (RERC) to participate in a two part conference on art and pedagogy. Featuring speakers such as Stephanie Springgay and Annette Kraus, these conferences provided a look into some models of alternative and art education that were nothing short of inspiring.

Stephanie, a self-proclaimed A/R/T/ogrpaher: Artist/Researcher/Teacher, was a strong influence on my education over the past year. In her School and Society class last semester, I was introduced to Critical Pedagogy and Social Action Curriculum, both of which have become a major interest in my teaching profession. She views her teaching as both research and art, and this model allows her to be continually developing new skills, testing new approaches, and networking with like-minded colleagues. I aim to model my career after her approach, thinking of each lesson I teach as not only a learning experience for my students, but as a learning experience for myself.

During the second part of the conference, I met Annette Kraus, a German artist/teacher working with students on projects that explore hidden curriculum. Her work spoke to my interests in Psychogeography (I have been an organizer of a NYC based Psychogeography Festival for the past two years), student-inquiry and art. She encourages students to develop their own approaches for discovering knowledge and inspires them to look at the world around them from a different angle. Much like Stephanie, I am sure that Annette will have an influence on my career as a teacher.

For more information on the Extra-Curricular: Between Art and Pedagogy Conference, visit their website.

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