

ACADEMIC LIBRARY OUTREACH: UNLEASHING STUDENT POTENTIAL

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AGENDA

Our Why

Working as a "Client" for student projects

Student Advisory Group

Programs

Exhibits

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not reflect the official position or policy of the United States Military Academy, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the U.S. Government.



OUR WHY





STUDENT PROJECTS

All cadets are required to complete some sort of capstone project or research within both their majors and their minors

Leverage opportunities already built into our curriculum

Cadets approach the work from a unique perspective



WORKING AS A "CLIENT"

- MARKETING
- PROGRAMMING
- WEBSITE DESIGN
- RAG FOR ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS MATERIALS



IDEAS TO TRANSLATE TO YOUR LIBRARY



Work with a local social media manager to conduct an audit of your social media in exchange for free advertising.



Are there any fresh high school or college graduates that would like to build their resume. An architect or engineer could analyze your foot traffic. A marketer or graphic design student could do a sign audit and then design branded graphics.



Approach Scouts, Honor Societies, or other local organizations that are looking for volunteer opportunities to complete that collection maintenance project you've been putting off.



Reach out to a local high school or college to see if they have any classes that require "clients." Look at disciplines that rely heavily on projects such as Business or Engineering.

TAKE AWAYS:

- Don't expect to get the perfect solution
- Don't be afraid to point out when they're moving too far away from the goal
- Look for the gems in their research
- Look for the gaps in their solutions
- YOU have value to bring to the table so don't be afraid to ask for the moon

STUDENT ADVISORY GROUP



DIVERSE GROUP



OFFERED DIFFERING OPINIONS ON
A VARIETY OF TOPICS

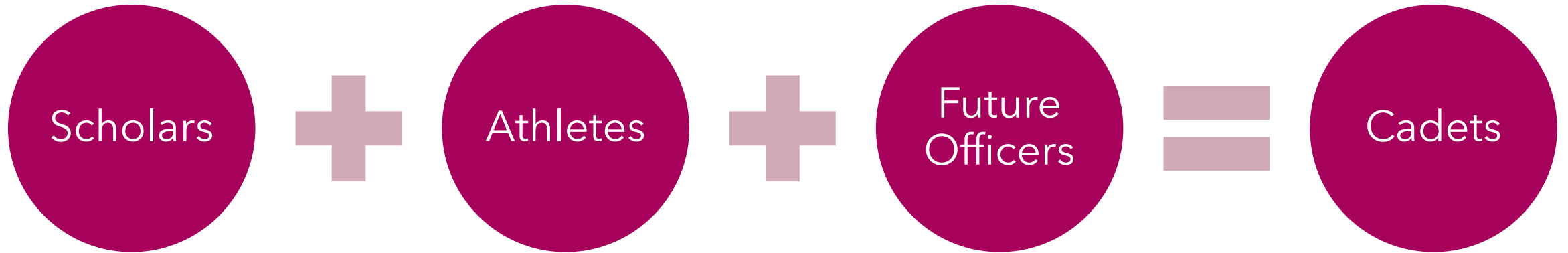


GAVE US A CHANCE TO ASK
FURTHER QUESTIONS AND DEEP
DIVE INTO THEIR IDEAS



UNLEASHING THROUGH PROGRAMMING

OUR COHORT



TYPES OF PROGRAMMING

Passive Programming/Pop-Ups

- Tiny Art, Therapy Dog, Black Out Poetry, Make and Takes

Scheduled Events

- Open Mic, Open Studios, History of Jazz



WHY PASSIVE PROGRAMS

Passive programming in academic libraries addresses a variety of specific skills that are crucial for student success and personal growth. Skills unleashed include:

- **Critical Thinking:** Thought-provoking displays or puzzles encourage students to analyze information, make connections, and draw conclusions independently.
- **Self-Directed Learning:** By choosing to engage with passive programs, students develop the ability to take initiative in their own learning process.
- **Creativity:** Take-and-make kits or artistic challenges stimulate creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

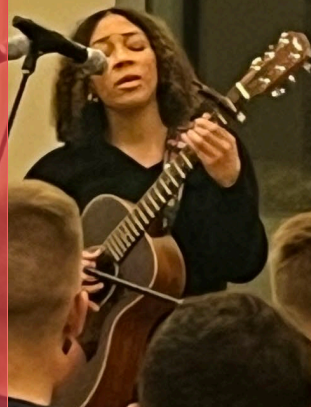


**ALWAYS
ALIGN
WITH
MISSION
STATEMENT**



**The mission of the
U.S. Military Academy
Library
is to empower our
cadets, faculty, and staff
to be leaders of distinction
in scholarship and research
by providing teaching and
expertise in the discovery
and application of
scholarly information,
access to information
supporting the curriculum
and independent research,
and *a place to engage with
knowledge, ideas,
and one another.***

**LEVERAGE
TALENT
AND
INTEREST
OF CADETS**



**OPEN MIC
AT THE HAIG**



OPEN MIC AT THE HAIG

OPEN MIC
AT THE HAIG



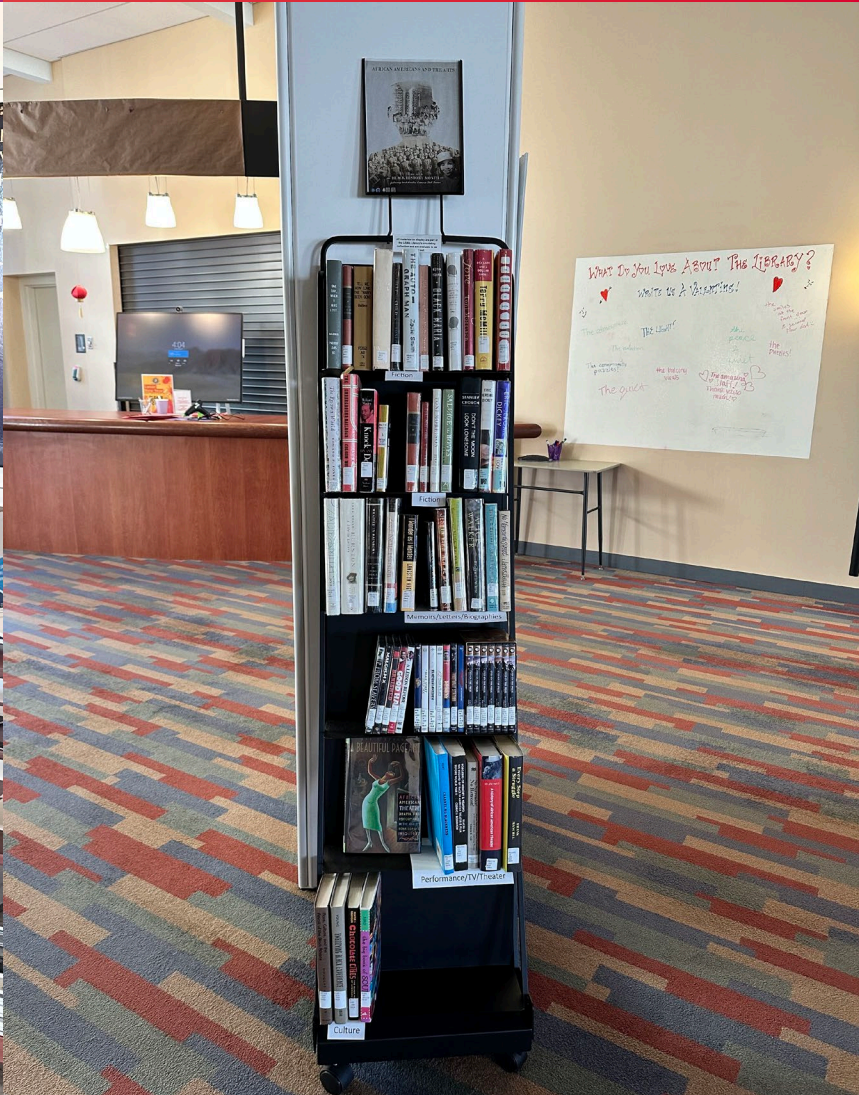
WHY AN OPEN MIC AT WEST POINT

Open Mic events provide a unique, low-stakes environment for cadets to develop and hone essential capabilities, ultimately contributing to their effectiveness as military leaders. Skills unleashed include:

- **Leadership and Communication:** Public speaking and presentation skills are crucial for officers who need to brief teams, deliver orders, and inspire troops.
- **Emotional Intelligence and Empathy:** Understanding and connecting with diverse individuals is essential for effective military leadership.
- **Creativity and Problem-Solving:** Military leaders often face unique challenges requiring innovative solutions. The creative thinking encouraged in Open Mics can translate to more effective problem-solving in military contexts.



POINT PATRONS BACK TO LIBRARY RESOURCES



MAKE FURTHER
CONNECTIONS





RIPPLE EFFECT

TINY ART SHOW: MAGNIFICENT MINIATURES



WHY A TINY ART SHOW?

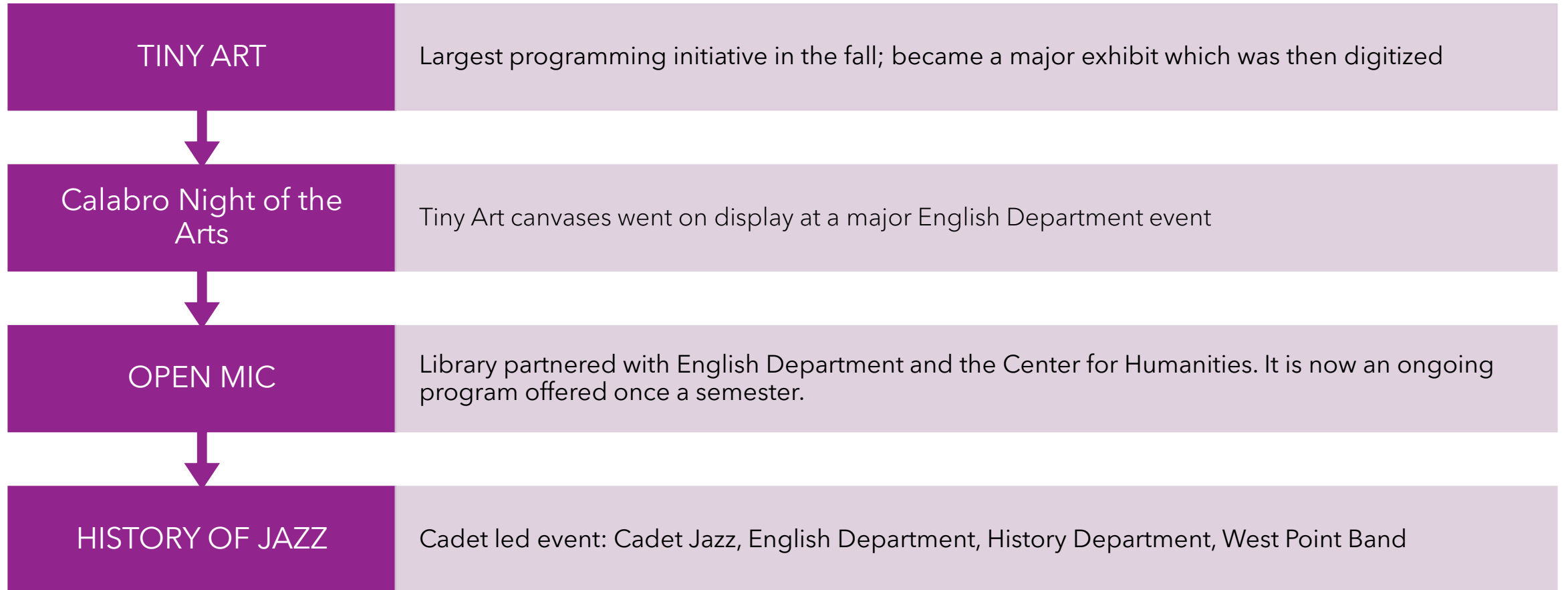
Tiny Art Shows create a unique (and low stakes) opportunity for cadets to explore their creativity, develop new skills, and engage with the community in a meaningful way. Skills unleashed include:

- **Attention to Detail:** Working on a small scale requires precision and focus, helping cadets develop their attention to detail
- **Visual Communication Skills:** Creating tiny art challenges students to convey ideas or emotions in a concise, visual format
- **Innovation and Problem-Solving:** The constraints of working in a small format encourage creative problem-solving and innovative thinking.

TINY ART SHOW: MAGNIFICENT MINIATURES



THE RIPPLE EFFECT: ONE EXAMPLE





HISTORY OF JAZZ

WHY HISTORY OF JAZZ?

This cadet-led library program exemplifies pedagogy by creating an active, engaging, and multifaceted learning experience. Skills unleashed include:

- **Research Skills Development:** This project provided practical experience in conducting research, synthesizing information from various sources, and presenting findings coherently.
- **Cultural Competence:** This project enhanced the cadets' cultural competence by exploring African American history and art forms.
- **Information Literacy:** Guiding the cadets through the process of selecting appropriate music and primary sources helps develop crucial information literacy skills.





PROGRAMMING AS PEDAGOGY

History of Jazz

- Challenged Dominant Narratives
- Highlighted African American Agency
- Explored Cultural Resistance
- Analyzed Cultural Exchange
- Revealed Intersectionality
- Examined Cultural Impact

UNLEASHING THROUGH LIBRARY PROGRAMMING TAKE AWAYS:



Widen your Network



Patron Driven Programming



Programming as Pedagogy



Let your students/patrons drive with guardrails



Leveridge existing groups and communication protocols

TYPES OF EXHIBITIONS



- Pop-Up Exhibits
- Classroom Instruction Support
- Monthly DEI Observances
- Library Book Displays
- Community Event and Conference Support
- Formal Exhibitions: Collaborations with Academic Departments
- Online Exhibitions

CADET ENGAGEMENT WITH EXHIBITS

WHAT DRIVES STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH EXHIBITS?

- SENSORY MOTOR EXPERIENCE
- PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACT TOPICS IN A TANGIBLE WAY
- USING ANCHOR POINTS THROUGHOUT THE VISIT TO CREATE A MORE COHESIVE STORY FOR ORGANIC ENGAGEMENT
- LEARNING ABOUT THEMSELVES & EACH OTHER!





**THE IMPORTANCE OF
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND
INCLUSION TO OUR MISSION
AND CADETS**

WE HAVE BEEN ASKING
OURSELVES
PERSONALLY AND
COLLECTIVELY AS AN
INSTITUTION, HOW TO
WE STRIVE TO "DO
BETTER".



BUY-IN AND COLLABORATION WITH ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS THAT SUPPORT CADET RESEARCH

FOUNDATIONS: BLACK EXPERIENCES AT WEST
POINT



**SUPPORTING
FURTHER
SCHOLARSHIP
IN UNIQUE
AND
INNOVATIVE
WAYS**



LEARNING FROM CADETS

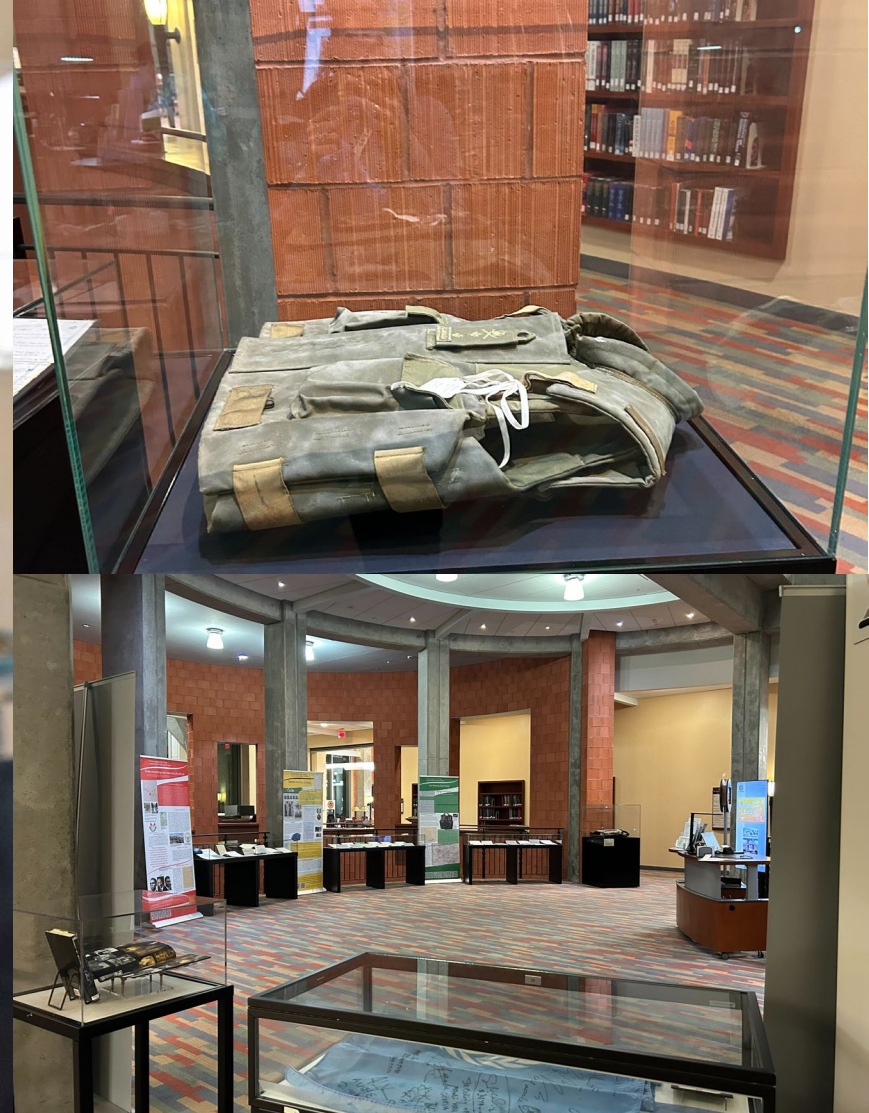
EVERY INTERACTION IN THE
LIBRARY IS AN
OPPORTUNITY!





**SELECTING THEMES THAT CADETS
CAN BOTH RELATE TO AND LEARN
FROM**

WE ARE IN SUCH A
UNIQUE POSITION AT
WEST POINT, WHERE
CADETS ARE LIVING AND
LEARNING IN HISTORIC
SPACES THAT THEY ARE
READING ABOUT AND
RESEARCHING!



EXHIBITIONS THAT ENRICH THE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

GRAPPLING IN THE GRAY:
PEACEKEEPING AND
GENOCIDE IN RWANDA



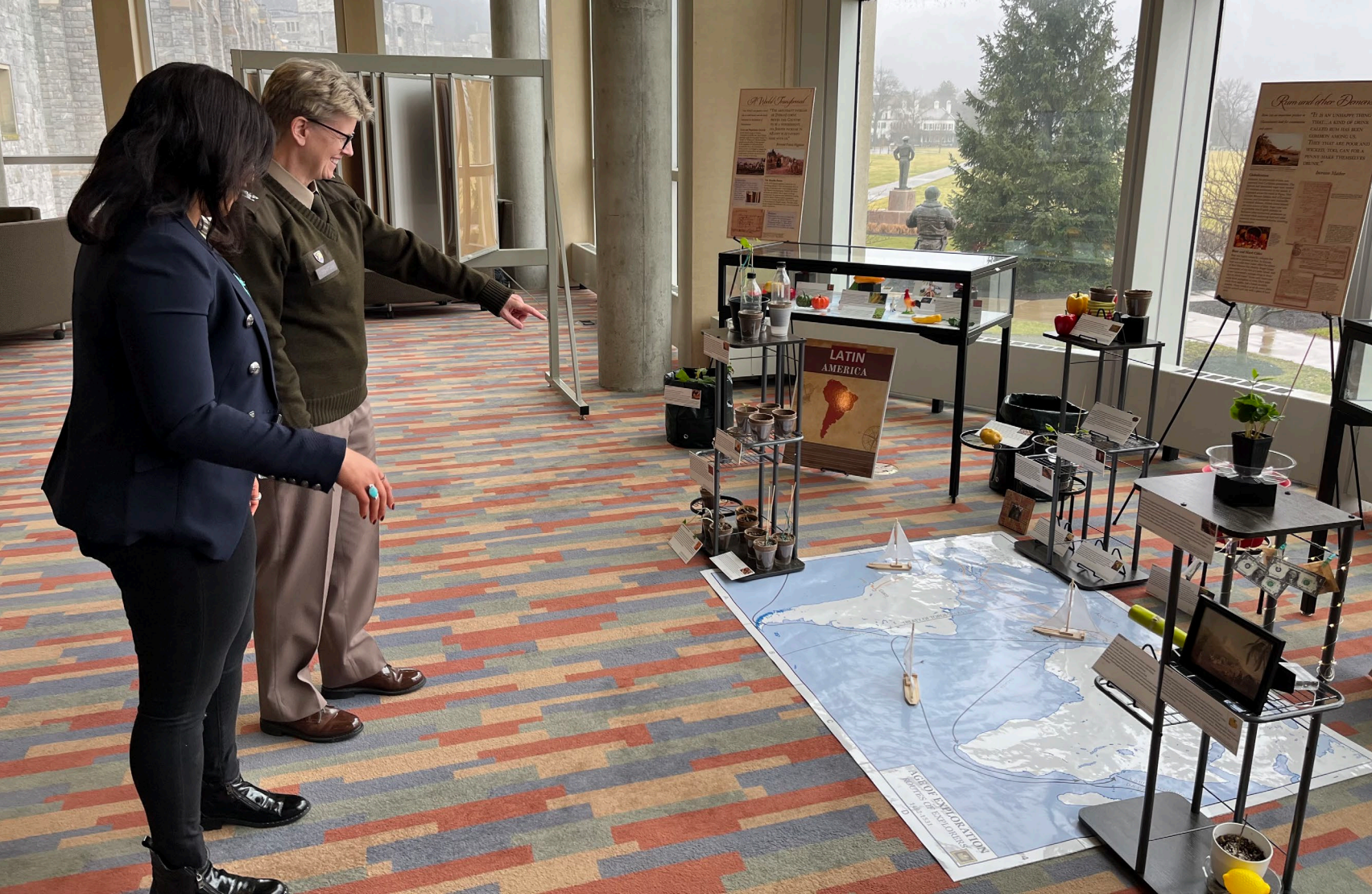
A VISUAL HISTORY IS ESSENTIAL FOR A FULL UNDERSTANDING AND EXPERIENCE THE INTERPRETATION OF CONFLICT THROUGH AN ARTIST'S LENS IS INCREDIBLY IMPACTFUL

ORIGINAL ARTWORK OF GENERAL ROMEO DALLAIRE



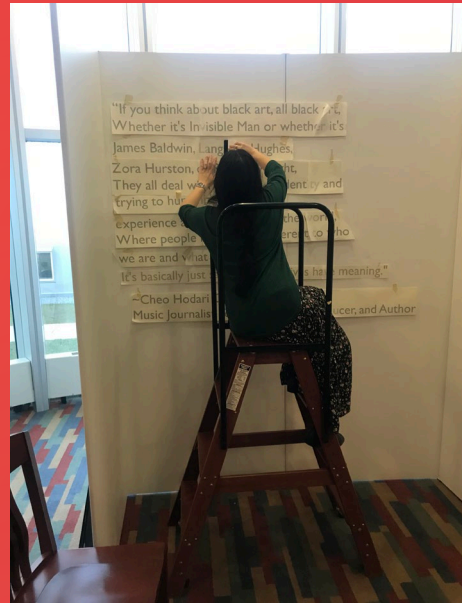
EXHIBITION CREATION IN CLASS:

SEEDS OF CHANGE: THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE: 4
SECTIONS OF PLEBE HISTORY CLASSES



SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITION PROJECTS CAN BECOME PART OF THE CURRICULUM: POSITIVE CADET FEEDBACK HAS DRIVEN THE RETURN OF SEEDS OF CHANGE FOR THIS SPRING!

CONNECTED COMMUNITY



Creating lifelong relationships. Alumni are incredibly influential and brilliant individuals, many who LOVE West Point even if/when their experience was difficult or complicated.

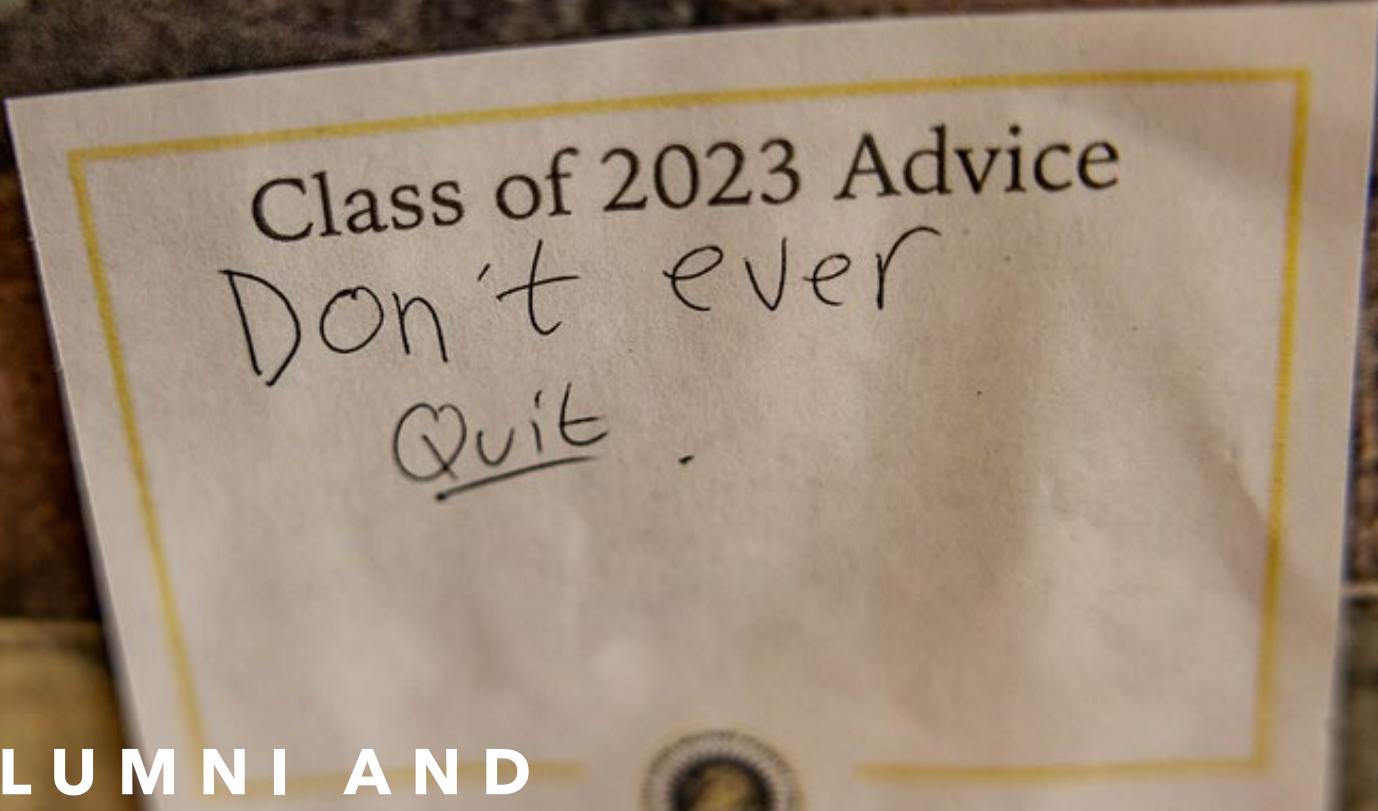
TAKE AWAYS:

1. EVEN WHEN EXHIBITION PROJECTS ARE STUDENT LED, THEY STILL TAKE AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF TIME. PLAN ALMOST DOUBLE FOR WHAT YOU THINK THE TIME WILL TAKE TO CREATE!

2. UNDERSTAND THAT BECAUSE EXHIBITS ARE SO FRONT AND CENTER THERE WILL BE A LOT OF FEEDBACK (SOME AMAZING, SOME NOT SO GREAT)! HOWEVER, WHEN THEY ARE CADET LED, WE CAN REST ON OUR LAURELS, WE ARE MEETING OUR PATRONS NEEDS AND OUR MISSION!

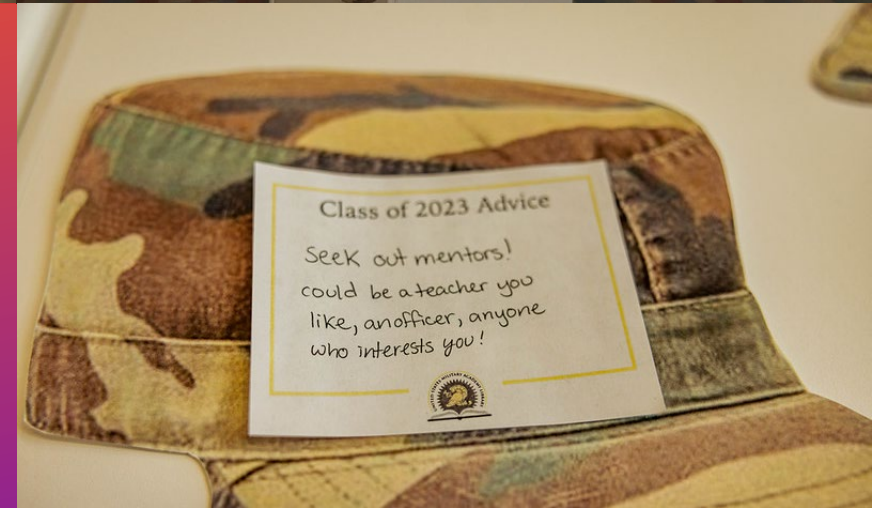
3. WHEN YOU'RE COLLABORATING WITH MANY ORGANIZATIONS AND DEPARTMENTS; MAKE SURE YOUR LIBRARY'S MISSION STAYS CENTRAL.





Class of 2023 Advice
Don't ever
Quit .

**4. ALUMNI AND
YOUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS
ARE PROUD OF WHERE THEY
LIVE AND ARE INTERESTED
IN CREATING AN HONEST
HISTORIC LEGACY! EVERYONE
IS WILLING TO ASSIST!**





LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

- We have developed strong relationships with many colleagues, including decision makers, on campus
- We have built a reputation on West Point of being credible teachers, collaborators, and creative thinkers
- Our Information Literacy Instruction program has changed in many ways (for the good!)

THANK YOU!

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QUESTIONS?